



ACTION COMICS

20c



NO. 418
NOV.
30410

WHO CAN BEAT SUPERMAN?



MORE SUPERMEN!

PLUS

METAMORPHO IN A *NEW* FREAKED-OUT FABLE

BOYS! SIGN UP NOW!

The Ford-National Football League

PUNT, PASS & KICK

COMPETITION



ARA PARSEGHIAN, FORD'S NATIONAL PP&K DIRECTOR SAYS:

"As coach of Notre Dame I know a winner when I see one—and PP&K is a winner! I'm pleased to be Ford's National Director of PP&K, the biggest and best of all national programs for boys. Here's how it works: boys 8 through 13 compete with others their own age in PP&K. There's no body contact. PP&K is fun and exciting. I urge every boy between 8 and 13 to sign up today!"

WIN TROPHIES! TRAVEL TO NFL GAMES! COMPETE AT THE PRO BOWL! TOUR DALLAS!

You may win one of many handsome trophies. Think of it. Every participating Ford Dealer is awarding 18 local trophies. Plus, if you're a first place winner, you get a crack at many more trophies. Imagine your parents, as Ford's guests, seeing you compete in full uniform, during half time in an NFL game. Or as a National Finalist at the famous Pro Bowl Game in Dallas, Texas. And, as a National Finalist, you and your parents will tour fabulous Dallas.

IT'S FREE! IT'S FUN! IT'S EASY TO ENTER!

Go with your mom, dad, or legal guardian to your participating Ford Dealer and register. There's no obligation—and everything is absolutely free. And, PP&K has the full support of the National Football League.

Boys who sign up get a free Tips Book filled with exciting stories, pointers and tips by NFL stars Dave Lewis, Garo Yepremian and Roger Staubach on how to Punt, Pass and Kick the way the professionals do!

**HURRY! REGISTRATION OPEN AUGUST 14
THROUGH SEPT. 29!**



SUPERMAN

IN THE HUSHED HALLS OF THE U.N., SUPERMAN STARS IN AN HISTORIC MOMENT!

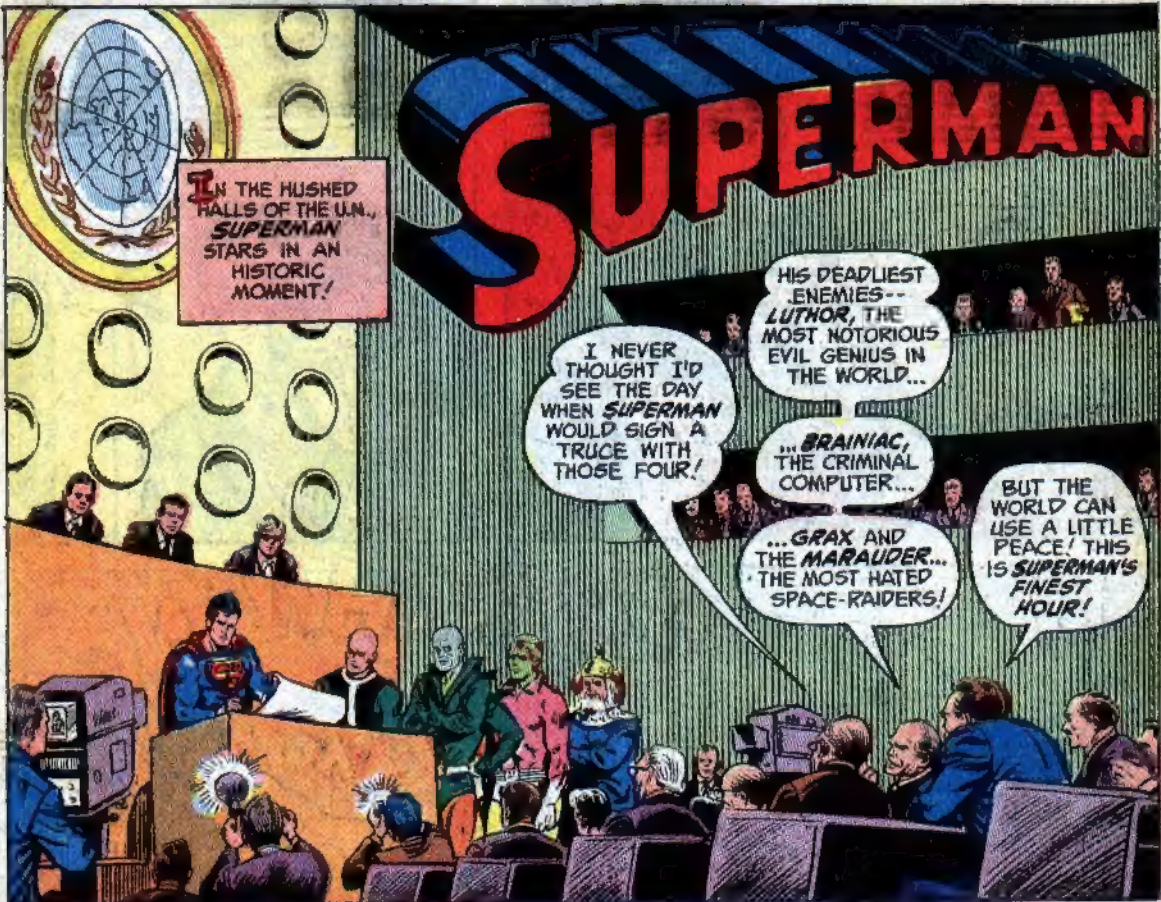
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY WHEN SUPERMAN WOULD SIGN A TRUCE WITH THOSE FOUR!

HIS DEADLIEST ENEMIES-- LUTHOR, THE MOST NOTORIOUS EVIL GENIUS IN THE WORLD...

...BRAINIAC, THE CRIMINAL COMPUTER...

...GRAX AND THE MARAUDER... THE MOST HATED SPACE-RAIDERS!

BUT THE WORLD CAN USE A LITTLE PEACE! THIS IS SUPERMAN'S FINEST HOUR!



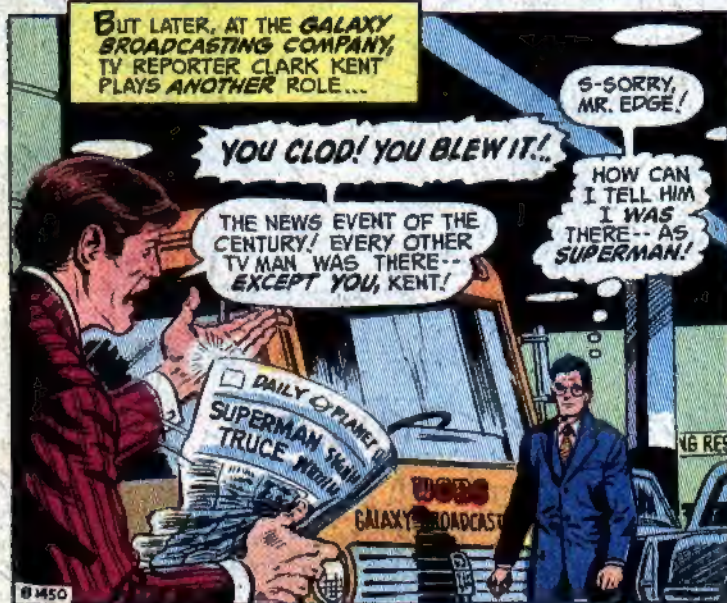
BUT LATER, AT THE GALAXY BROADCASTING COMPANY, TV REPORTER CLARK KENT PLAYS ANOTHER ROLE...

YOU CLOD! YOU BLEW IT!

THE NEWS EVENT OF THE CENTURY! EVERY OTHER TV MAN WAS THERE-- EXCEPT YOU, KENT!

S-SORRY, MR. EDGE!

HOW CAN I TELL HIM I WAS THERE-- AS SUPERMAN!



I'M TAKING YOU AWAY FROM THAT MOBILE NEWSROOM... AND MAKING YOU MY ASSISTANT! COME ON, FLUBADUB!

HIS ASSISTANT? ...I DON'T LIKE THE WAY HE SAID IT!



ACTION COMICS, Vol. 35, No. 418, Nov., 1972. Published monthly by NATIONAL PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Carmine Infantino, Publisher, Murray Boltinoff, Editor, E. Nelson Bridwell, Assistant Editor, Sol Harrison, Production Manager, Ed Lohacher, Circulation Director, Second Class Postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Advertising Representative, Sanford Schwarz & Co., Inc., 16 West 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. Copyright ©1972 by National Periodical Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. No actual persons, living or dead, are intended or should be inferred. Printed in U.S.A.

SUBSCRIPTION DEPT.: P.O. Box 1047, Flushing, N.Y. 11352. Rates for fifteen 20c issues \$3.00 in U.S. and Possessions; \$4.00 elsewhere.

This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition, nor affixed to, nor as part of any advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever.

LATER, AS REPORTER LOIS LANE WITNESSES CLARK'S HUMILIATION...

SO YOU'RE THE BOSS'S NEW ASSISTANT...EMPTYING HIS WASTEBASKET AND SHARPENING HIS PENCILS!

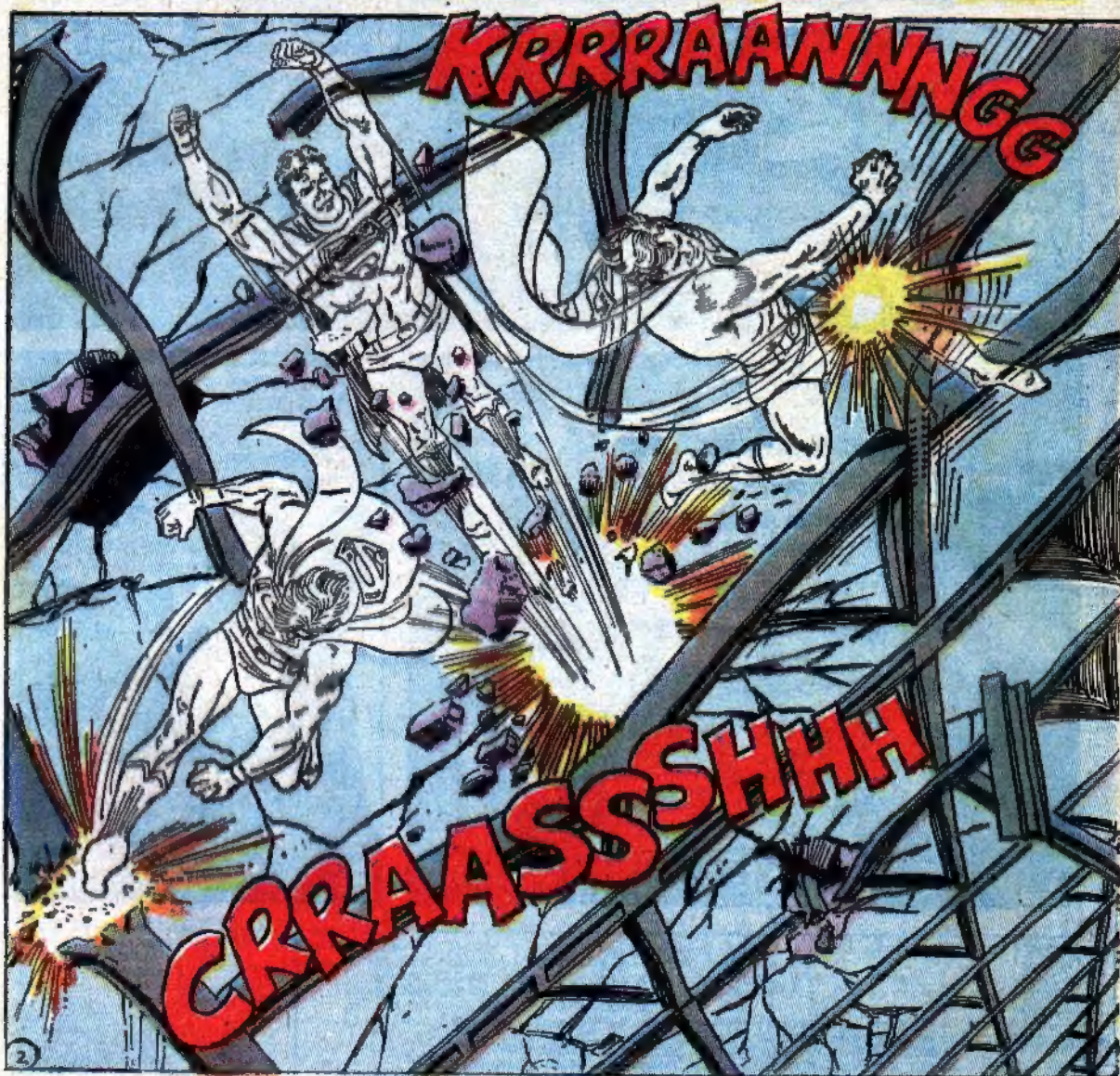
CLARK, YOU'RE THE LAUGHING-STOCK OF THE OFFICE AFTER THE WAY YOU GOOFED ON THAT SUPERMAN STORY!

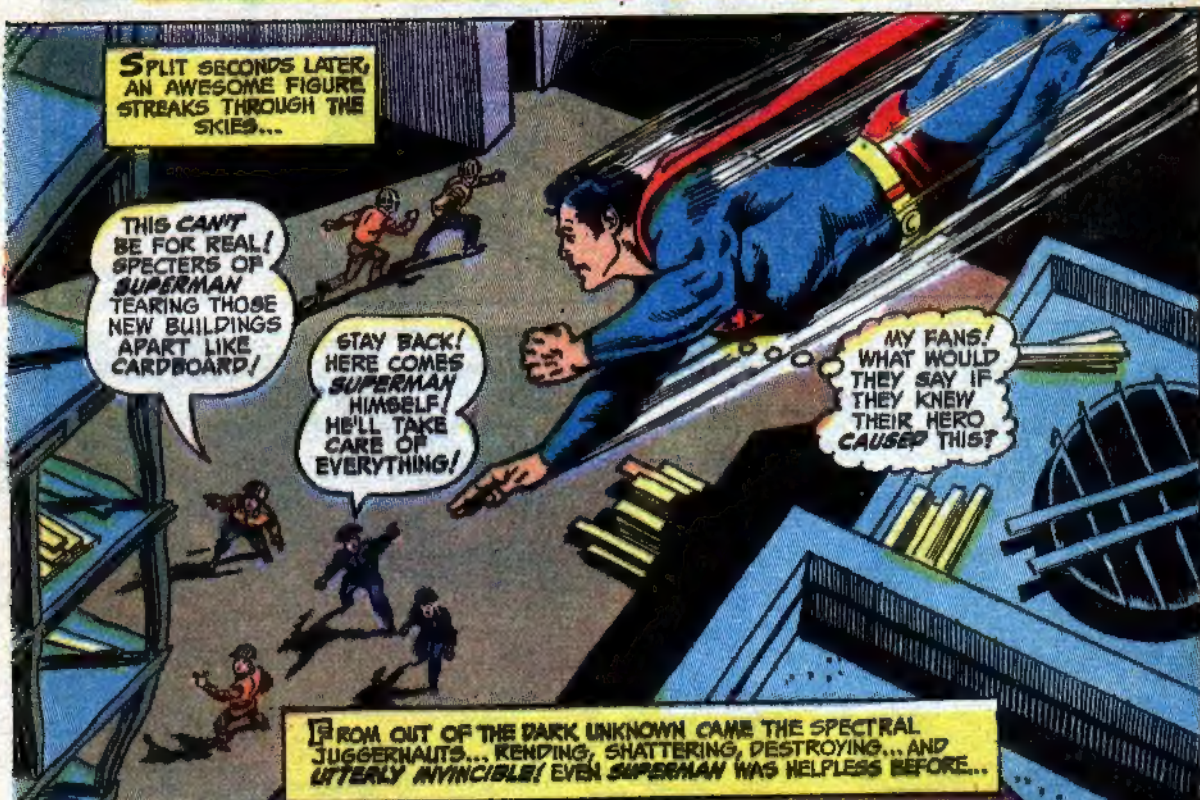
SO LAUGH IT UP, LOIS!

STRANGE, THOUGH... SUPERMAN WAS AGAINST THAT CEASE-FIRE WITH HIS FOES! I WONDER WHY HE CHANGED HIS MIND?

WHAT WOULD SHE SAY IF SHE KNEW THE TRUTH?

THAT I DID IT TO PREVENT THE GREATEST DISASTER IN THE WORLD!

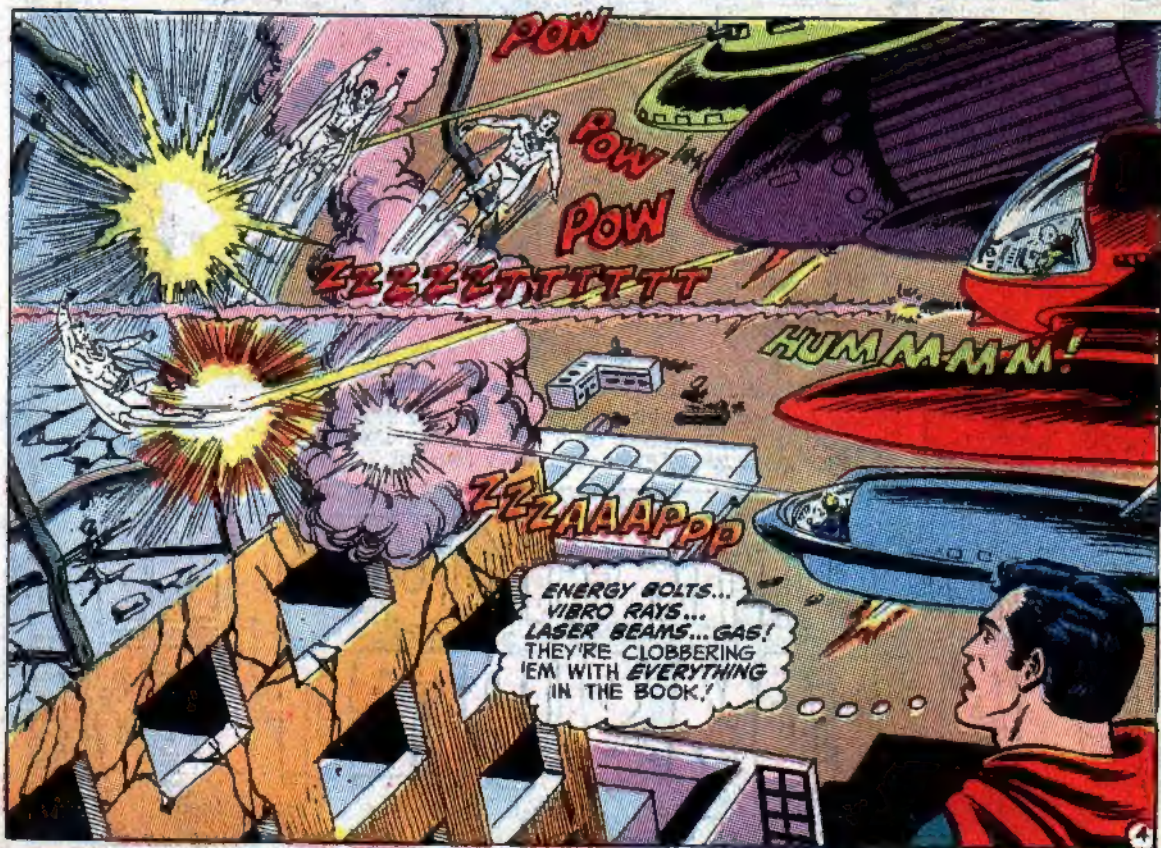
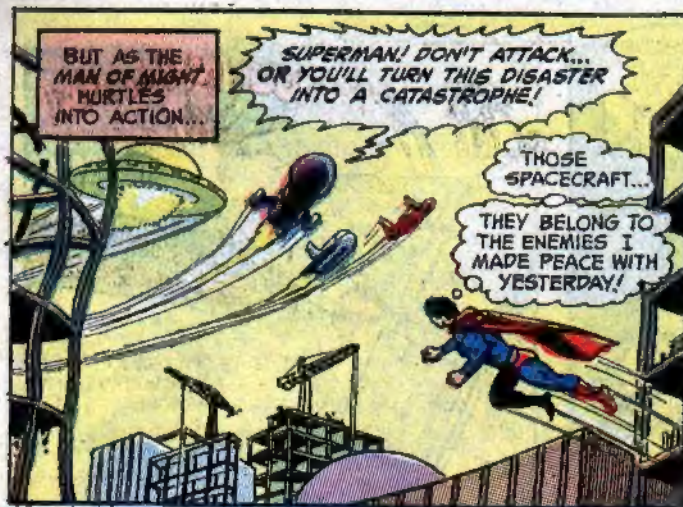




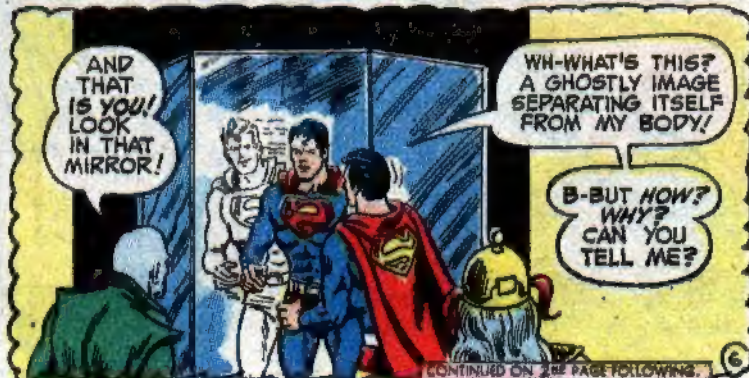
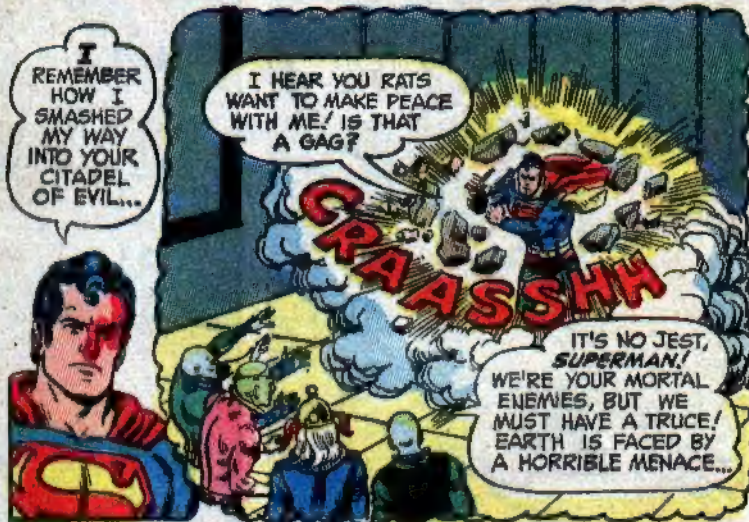
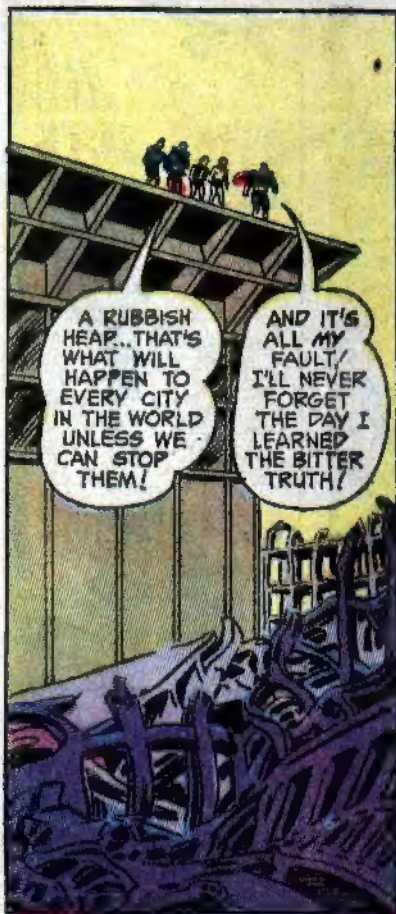
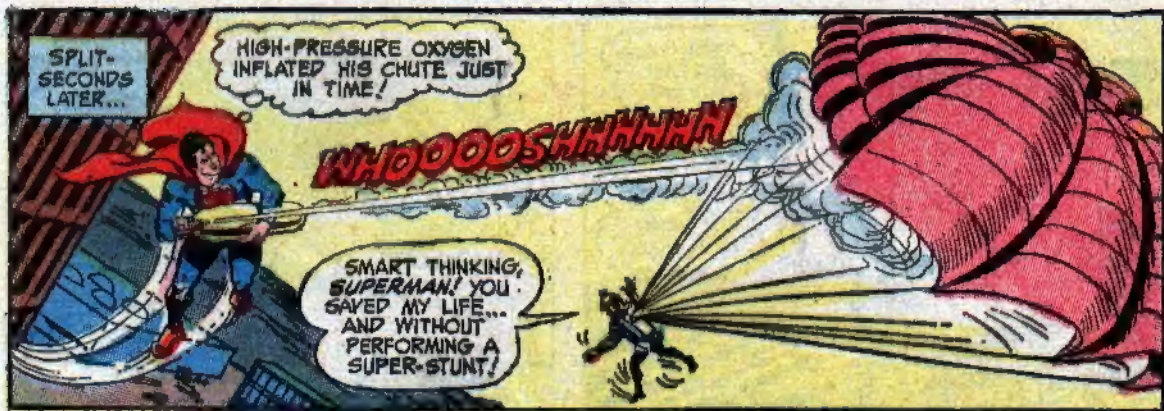
"The ATTACK OF THE PHANTOM SUPER-FOES!"

ART: TERRY AND ANDERSON

STORY: LEO BORTMAN









**GEE, BILLY--
DID YOU
REALLY
SCULPT AND
PAINT ALL
THESE
STATUES?**



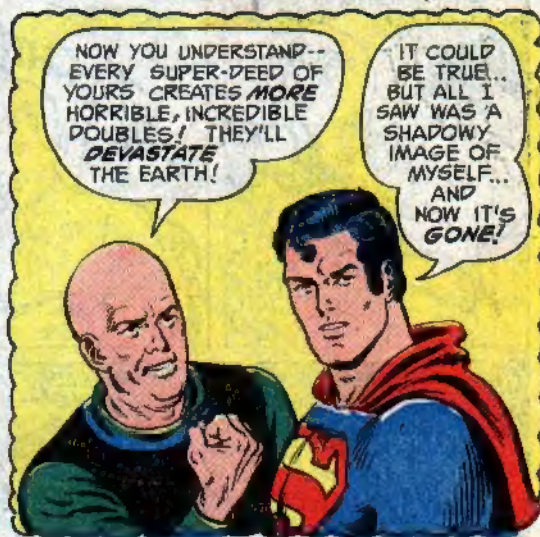
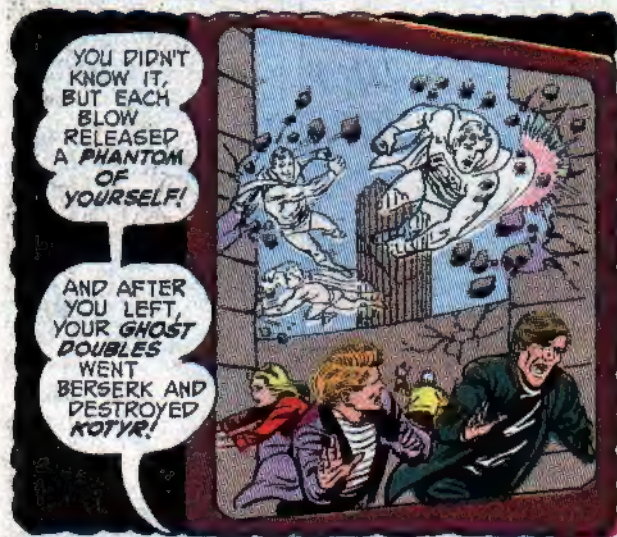
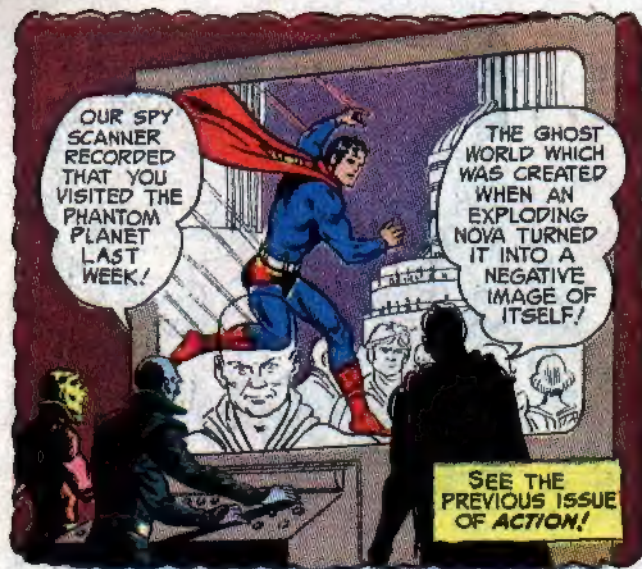
3 CHIP-AWAY™ SETS
EACH CONTAINS 3 DIFFERENT SCULPTURES,
SPECIAL CLAMP, CHISEL, MALLET AND
3 COLORS OF PAINT AND BRUSH.

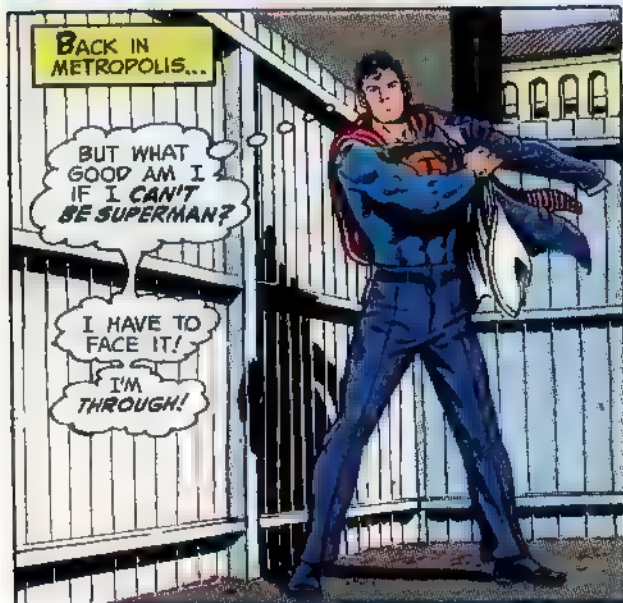
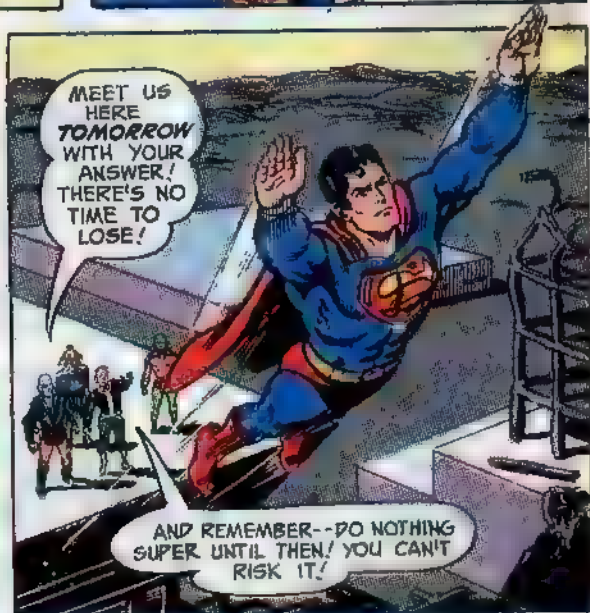
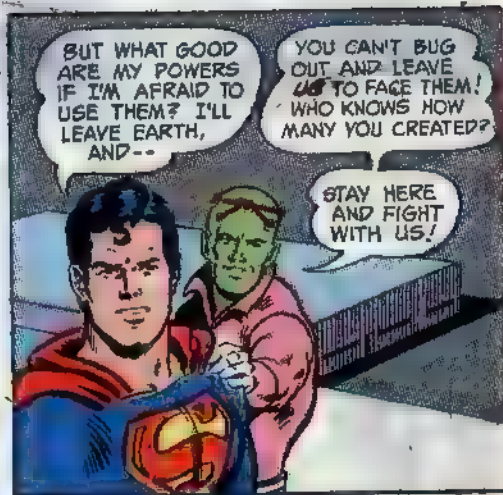
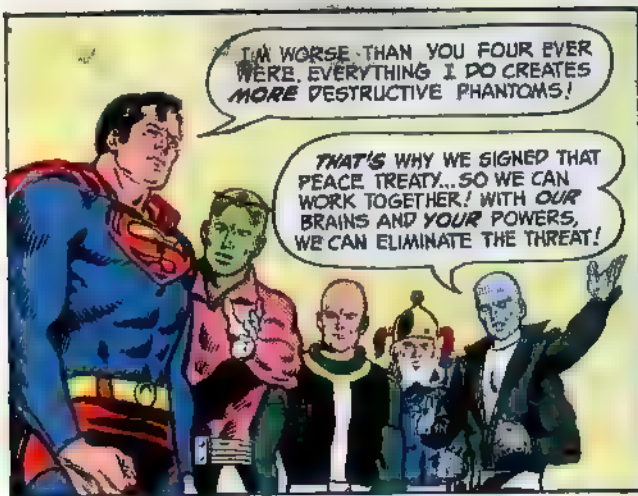


**ALL NINE STATUES FROM THE 3 CHIP-AWAY SETS
ARE ALSO AVAILABLE SEPARATELY.**



HOCKEY PLAYER SWIMMER BASKETBALL PLAYER CAT DOG HORSE BASKETBALL PLAYER SWIMMER HOCKEY PLAYER







THESE 3 BIG DRAFTING KITS* GIVEN TO YOU!

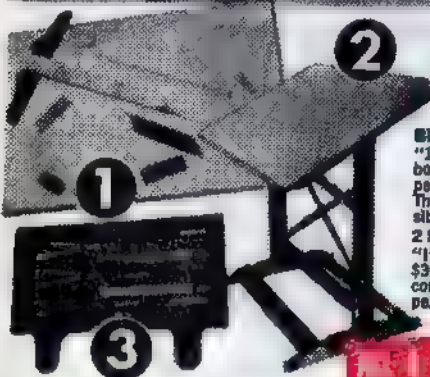
APPROVED FOR G.I.s VETERANS

Coast-to-Coast Shortage of Trained Draftsmen Opens Thousands Big Salary Jobs for Beginners!

Now you can take your pick of thousands of big salary jobs open to Draftsmen (see "help wanted" sections of metropolitan newspapers). Huge nationwide demand... U.S. Dept. of Labor reports "42% more Draftsmen needed in next 10 years—not enough applicants to fill drafting jobs available now!" Our easy "Quick-Learn" Method has helped hundreds toward good income, security and prestige as Draftsmen. Why not you?

YOU NEED NO DRAWING SKILL... NO TECHNICAL ABILITY

Our staff of Professional Draftsmen guide you step-by-step. With our spare time home-study plan you work on actual projects. Makes learning fun—easy to remember, too. Many graduates have succeeded with only grade school training. Others report good earnings drafting part time while still learning!



... when you train at home with us for a HIGH PAY JOB IN DRAFTING

Big Promotional
 "18 months ago I was a laborer. Now I am foreman of 22 people in the Drafting Room. Thanks for making this possible." J. D., Mass.
2 Raises and \$300 Bonus!
 "I've had 2 boosts in salary and a \$300 bonus in 11 months. Wish I could shake hands with your staff in person." A. C., Calif.



RUSH COUPON FOR FREE KIT...

Mail coupon today for FREE "DRAFTING CAREER KIT," Sample Lesson, Drafting Aptitude Test including intriguing new 8-Way Drafting Instrument & 20-page Book "Your Future in Drafting" — Jam-packed with revealing facts on your opportunities to win top pay and job security in Drafting. No salesman will call. Everything sent FREE and WITHOUT OBLIGATION. Write today!

North American School of Drafting, Dept. 22298
 4500 Campus Dr., Newport Beach, CA 92663
Rush "DRAFTING CAREER KIT" — ALL FREE!

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

A home study program in association with Cleveland Engineering Inst.

* Precision Drawing Instrument Set, Professional Drafting Board Outfit & Fingertip Tilting Drafting Table are given to you with your complete North American Course in Drafting.





MONSTER

S-I-Z-E MONSTERS

7 FEET TALL

In Authentic Colors With GLOW in the DARK EYES

ONLY \$1.00

TEN DAY FREE TRIAL



Just imagine your friends' shock when they walk into your room and see the "Monster" reaching out—bigger than life—Frankenstein, the original man-made monster, that creation of evil genius that terrorized the world. A giant 7 feet tall, his eyes glow eerily as his hand reaches out—an awful and sinister as the wildest nightmare. Yes—Frankenstein is 7 feet tall, in authentic colors on durable polyethylene, and so lifelike you'll probably find yourself talking to him. Won't you be surprised if he answers? Comes complete with eyes that glow even in the pitch dark for a special thrilling thrill.

Money the Skeleton. And then there is Money—stark scary with nothing left but his bare bones. A 7 foot monster out of the grave—his bones white, his eyes staring—even glowing in the dark.

Money Back Guarantee. Just send \$1.00 plus 38c to cover postage and handling for each monster you want. Your money back if not satisfactorily horrified.

Honor House Dept. 86MR95
 Lynbrook, N.Y. 11563

Rush me my 7 feet tall glow in the dark monsters. Send me ☐ Frankenstein ☐ Money the Skeleton

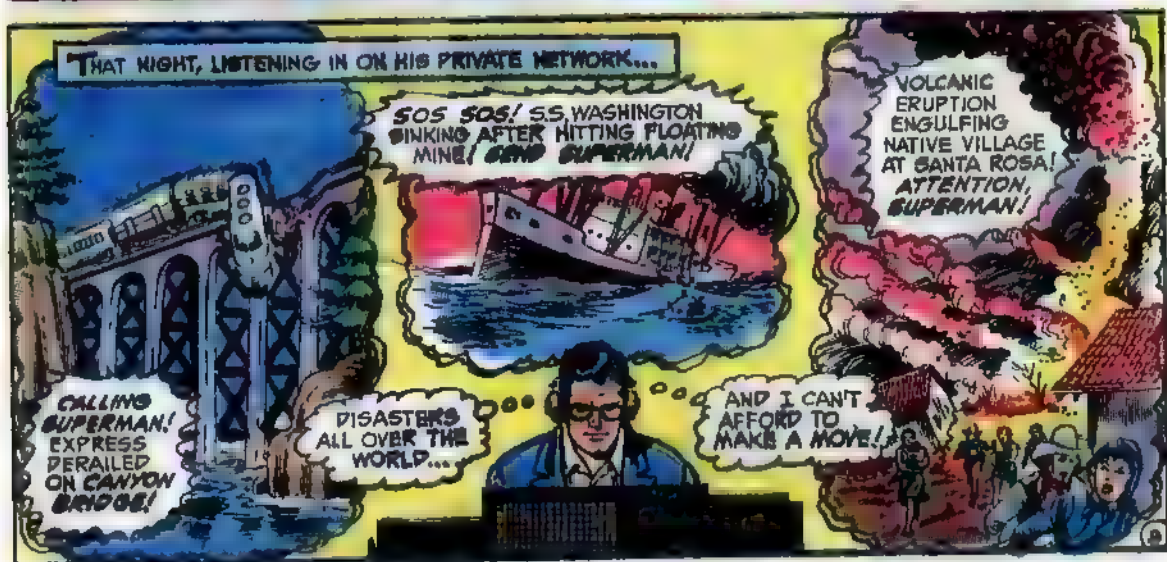
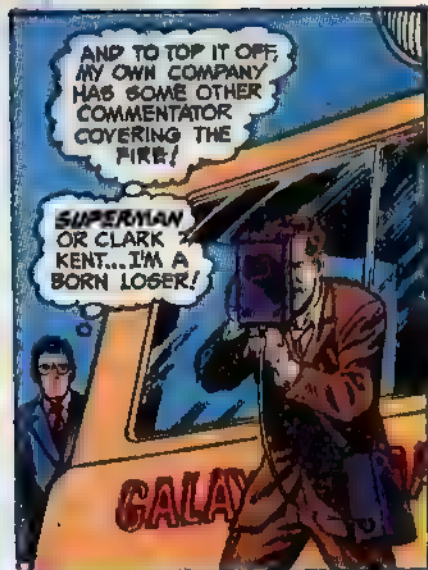
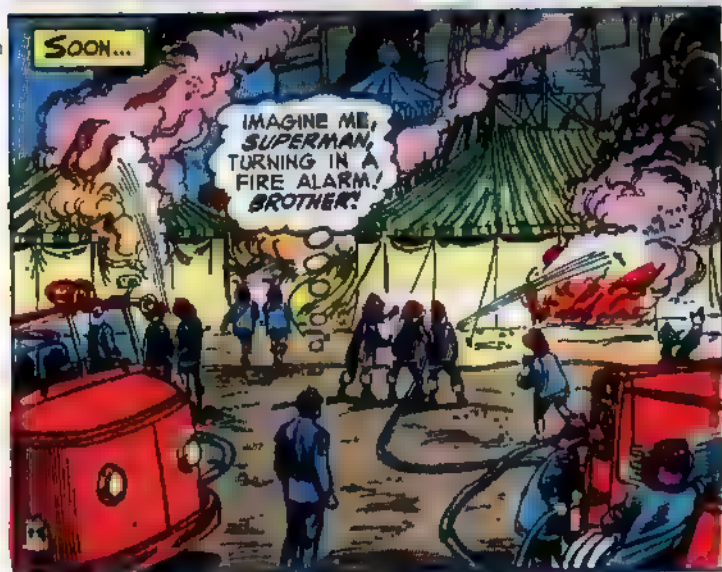
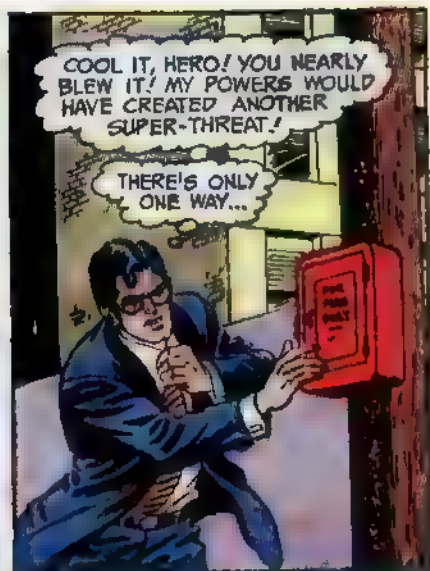
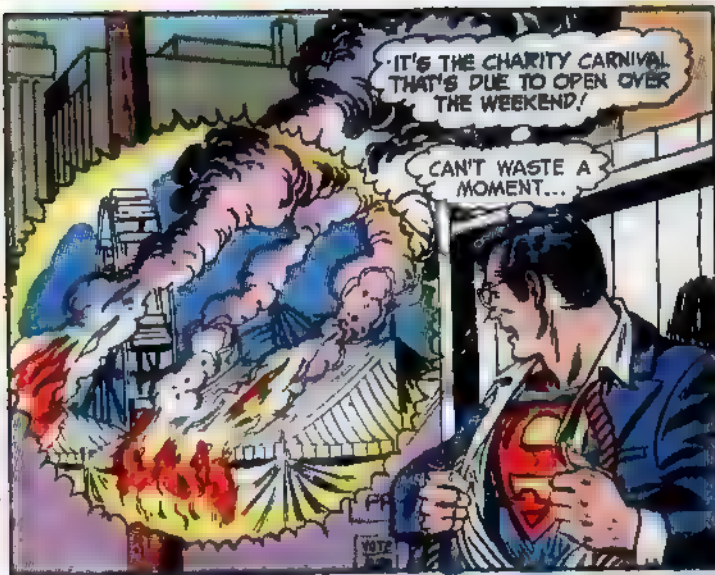
I enclose \$1 plus 38c for postage and handling for each. If I don't get shivers of delight, I can return my purchase within 10 days and you will refund the full purchase price.

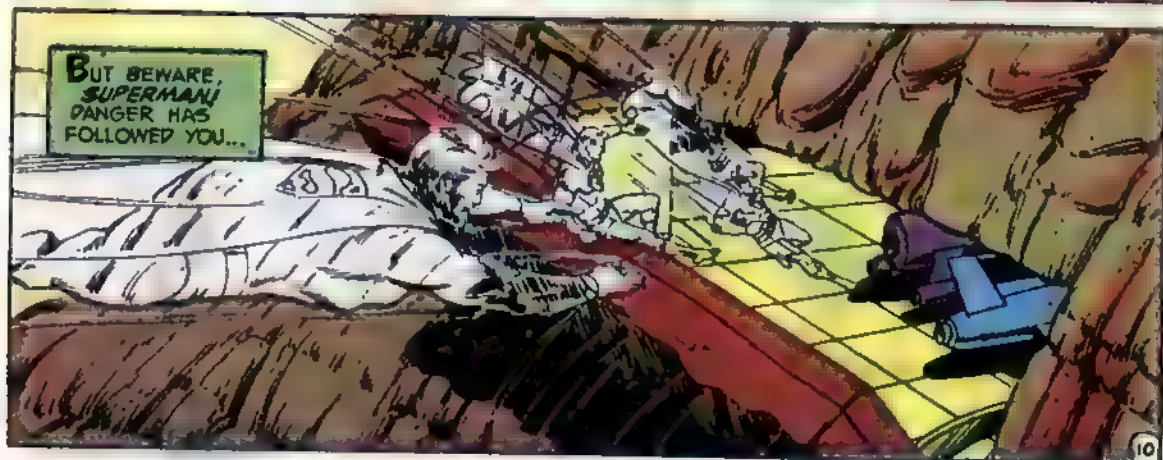
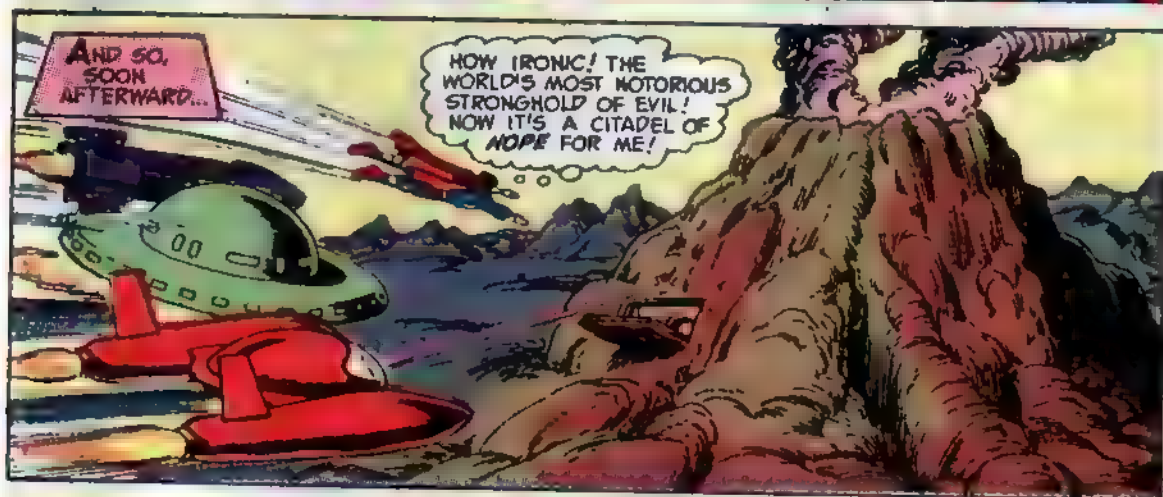
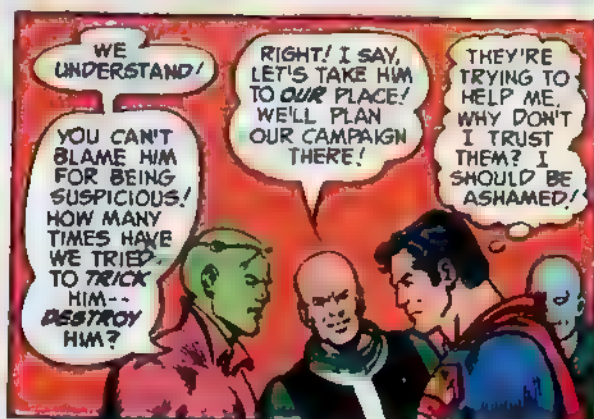
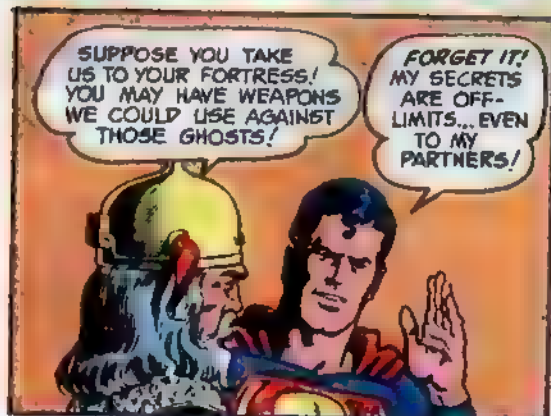
NAME _____

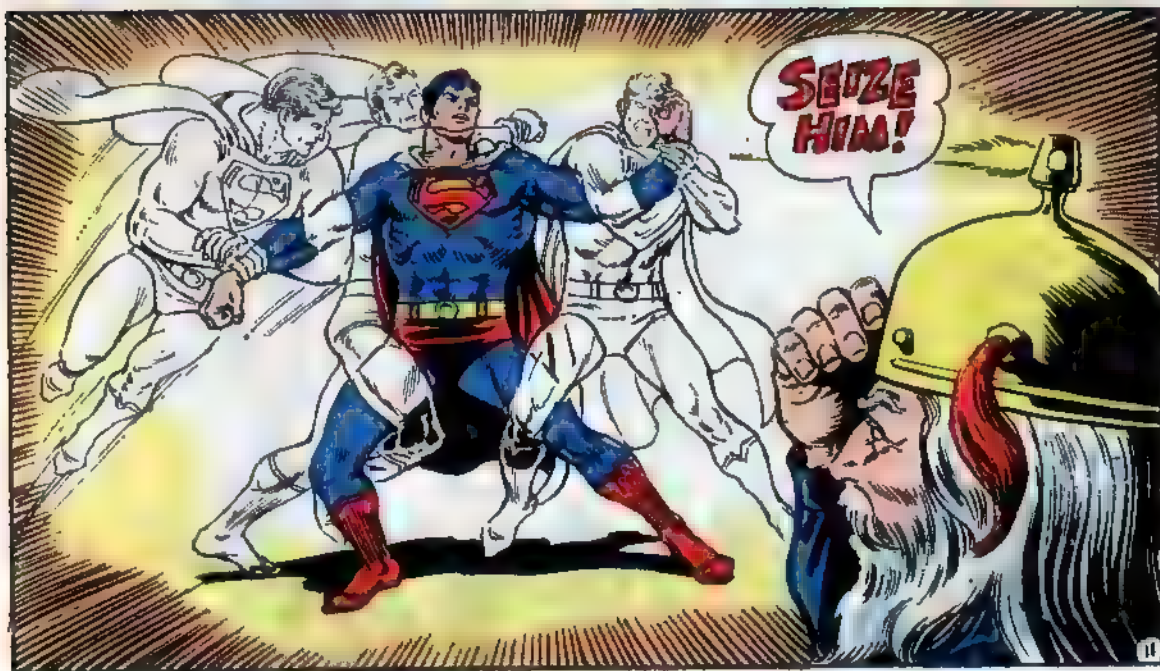
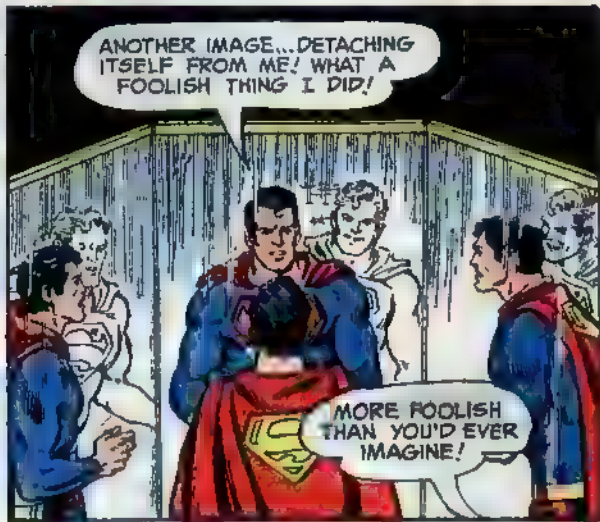
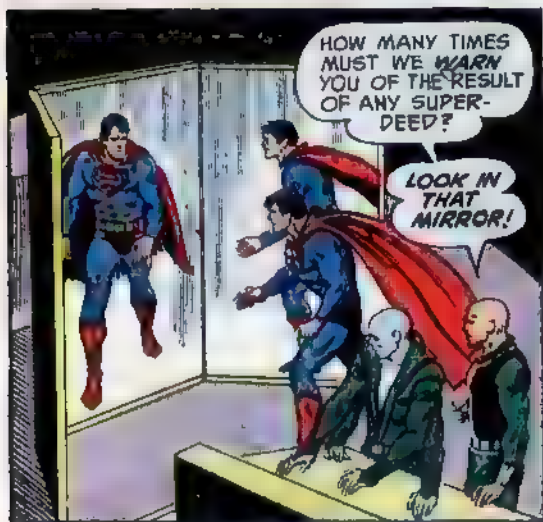
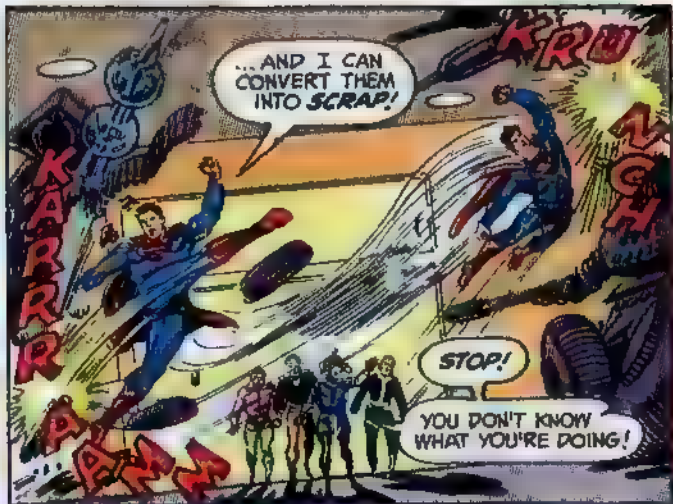
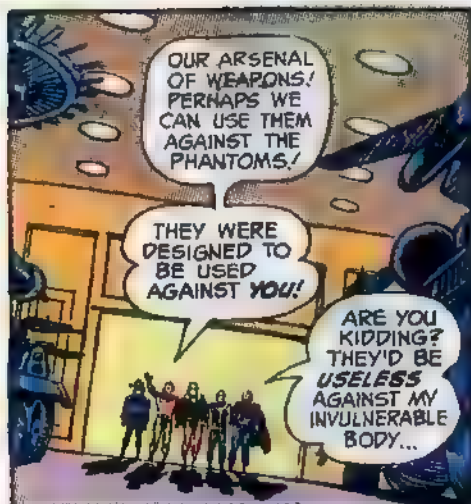
ADDRESS _____

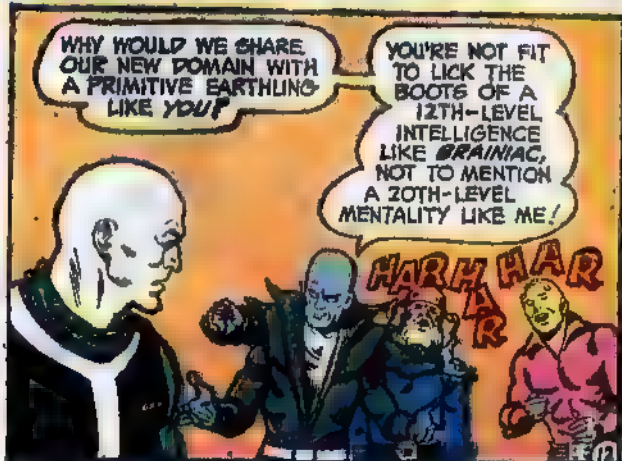
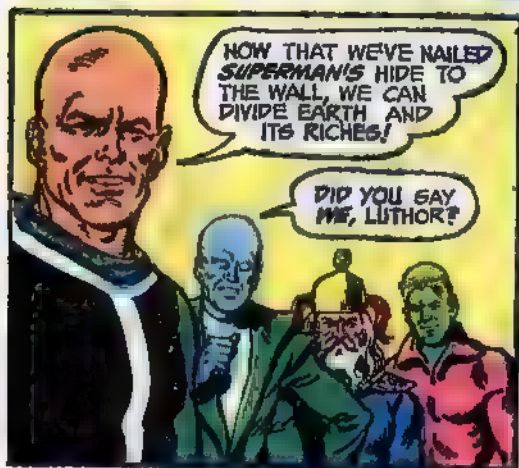
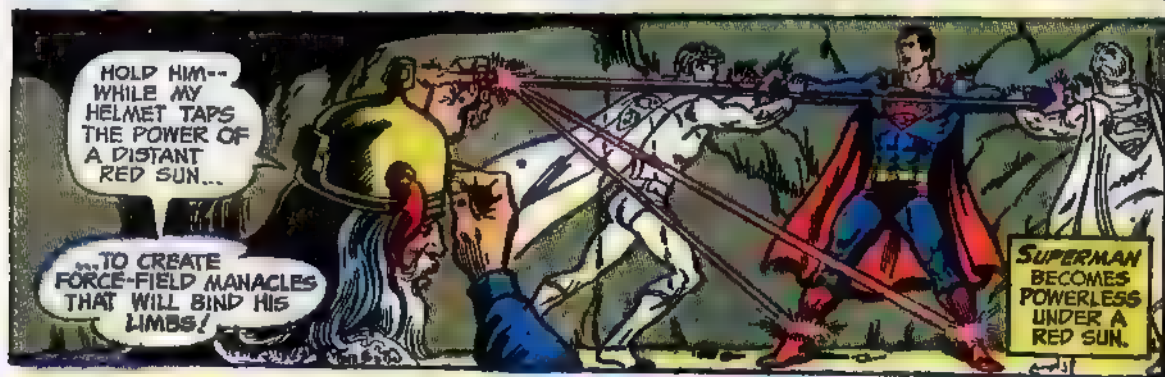
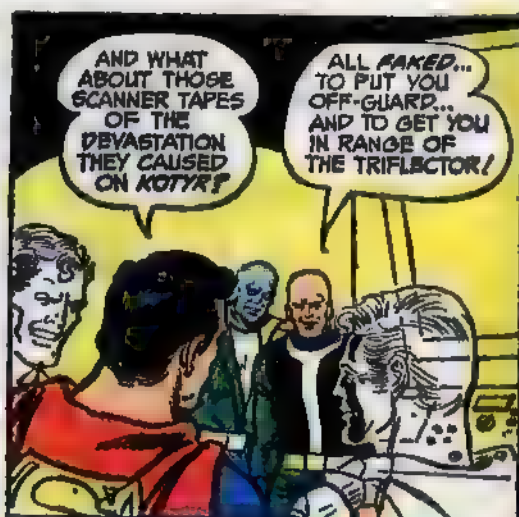
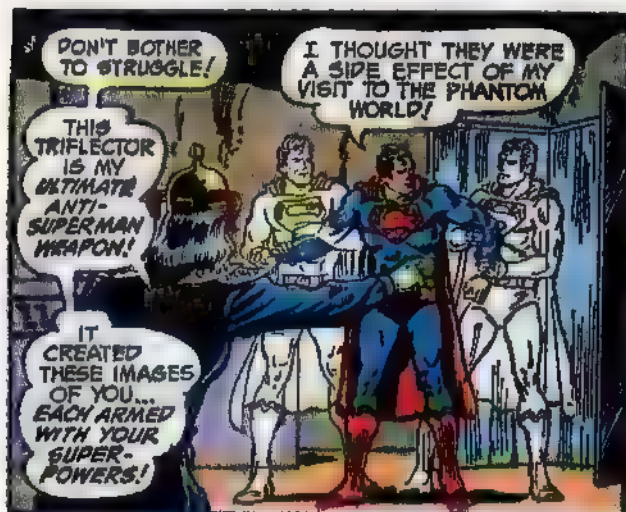
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

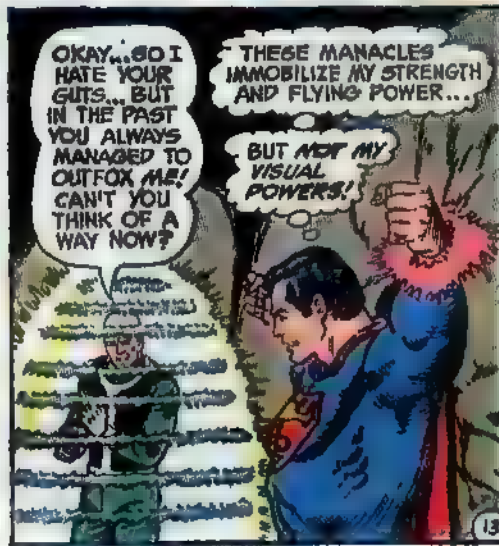
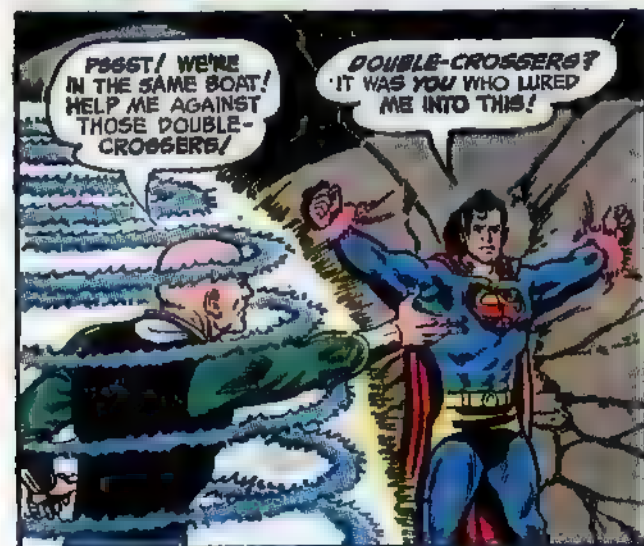
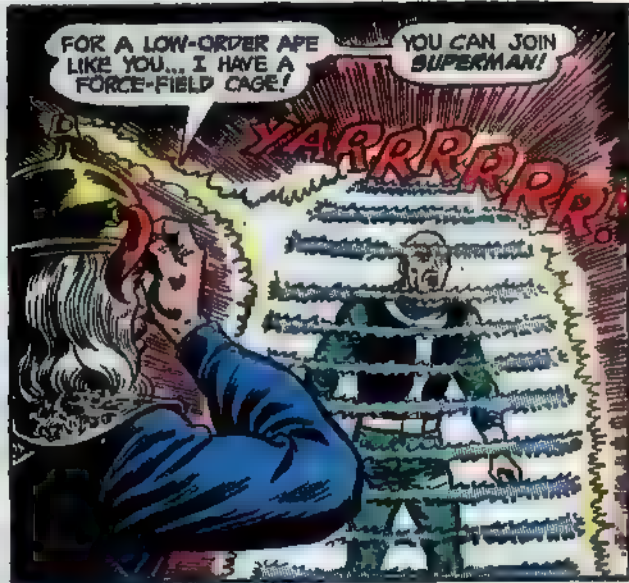
New York State Residents please add sales tax.

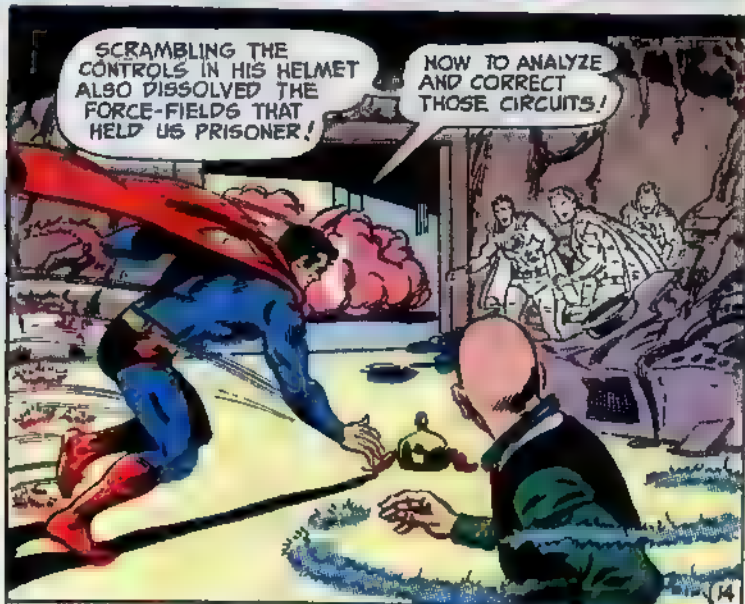
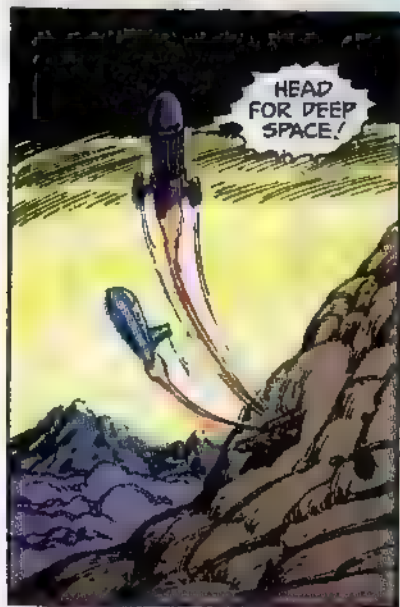
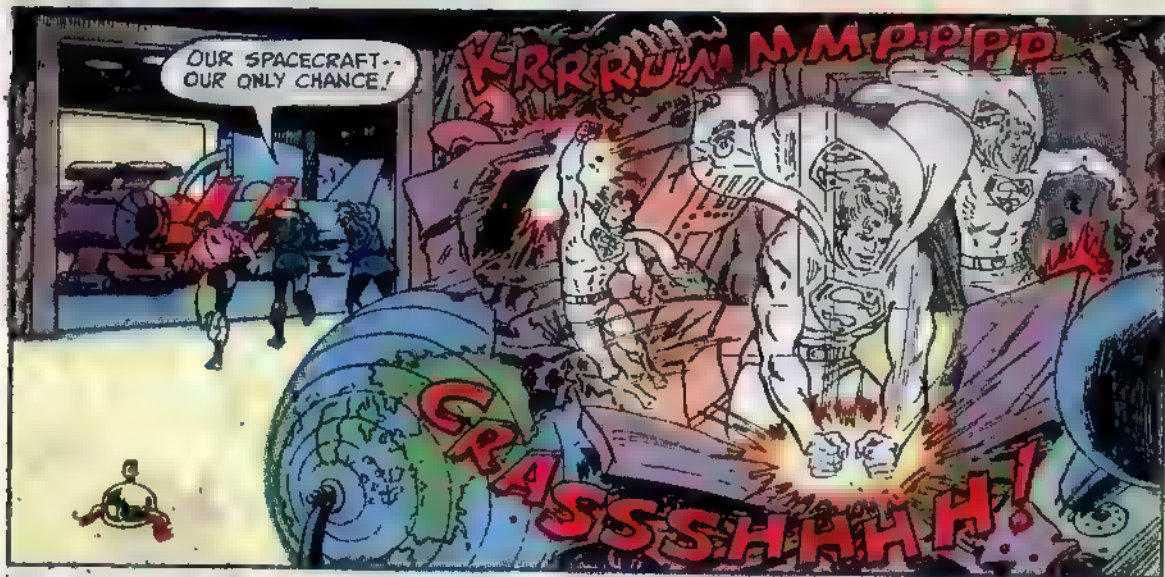
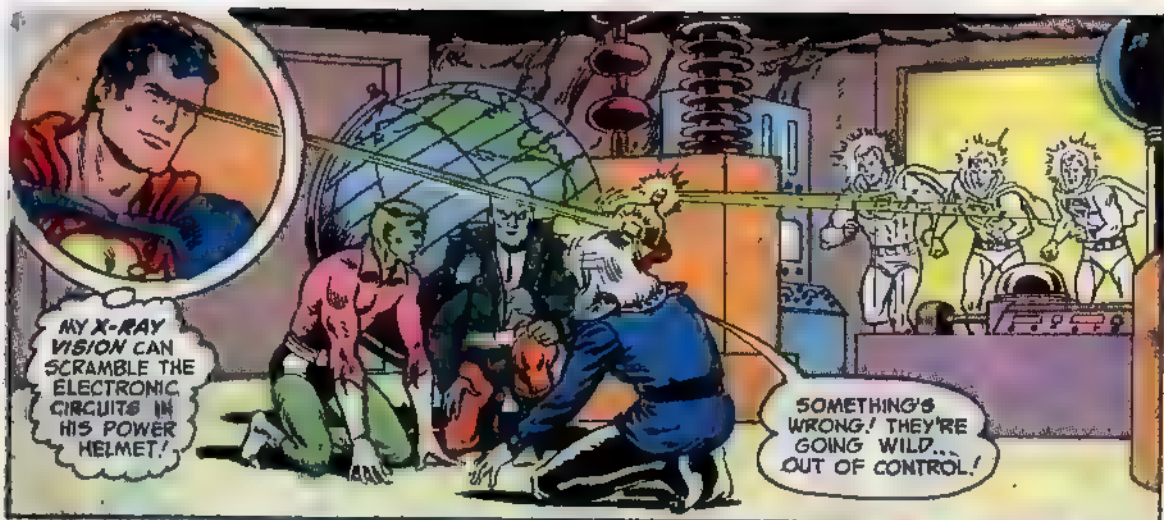


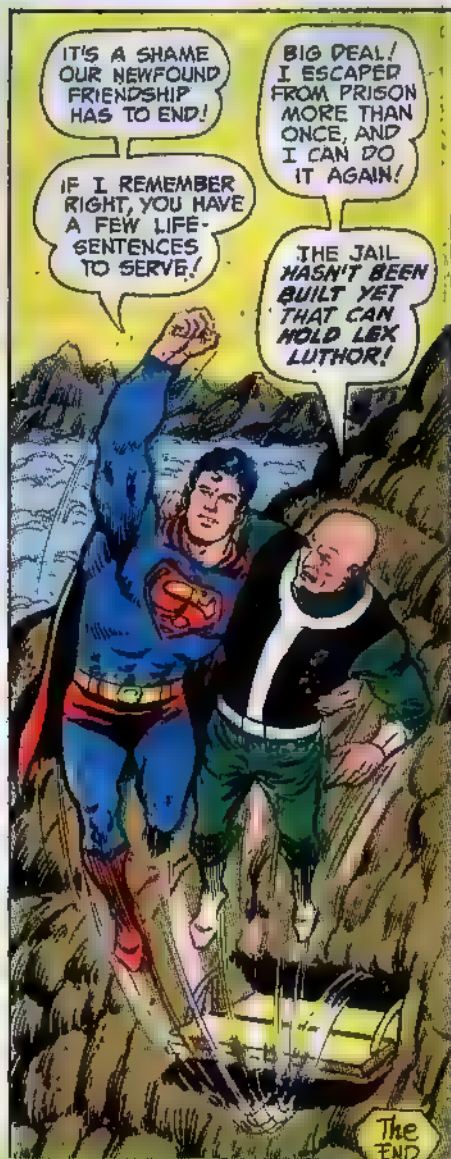
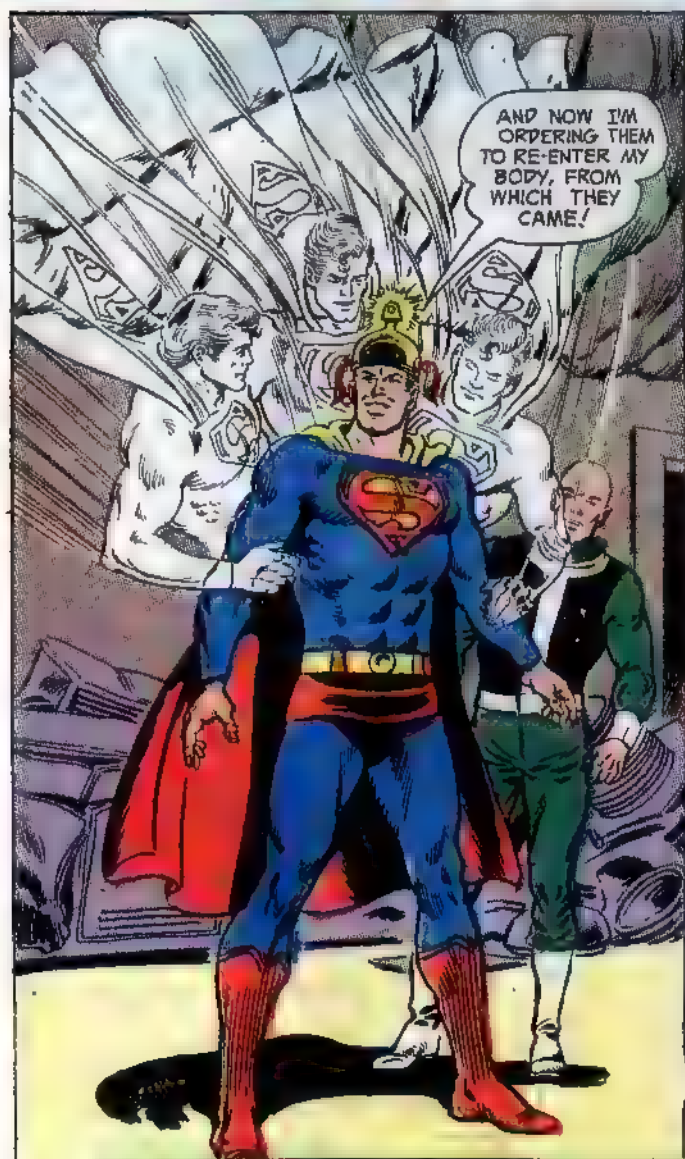
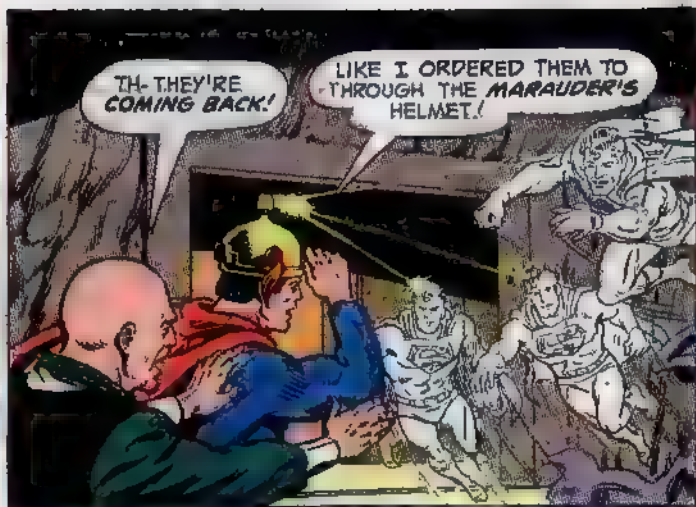
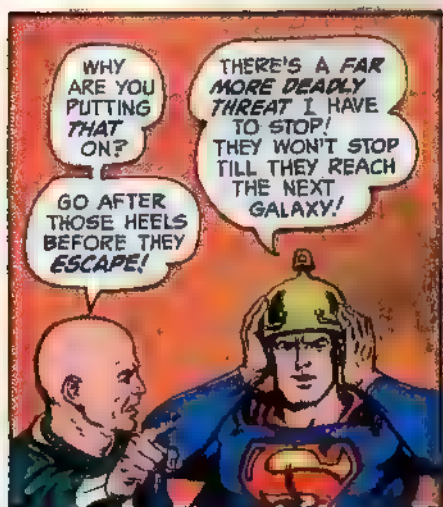












NEXT ISSUE: SUPERMAN BECOMES "THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN ON EARTH!"

The END

REWARD

FOR THIS COIN!



Illustrated: 1804 silver dollar
— 19,000 minted, only 12 accounted for — where are the rest?

\$11,750.00

FOR CERTAIN COINS WE PAY UP TO: CERTAIN

Gold Coins Before 1929	\$35,000.00
Nickels Before 1945	\$16,000.00
Silver Dollars Before 1936	\$11,750.00
Half Dollars Before 1947	\$5,500.00
Pennies Before 1919	\$4,800.00
Dimes Before 1946	\$4,750.00
Quarters Before 1941	\$4,500.00
Half Cents Before 1910	\$3,500.00
Lincoln Pennies Before 1940	\$250.00

\$500,000.00 SEARCH FOR RARE COINS! OLD AND NEW!

Stop spending valuable coins worth hundreds of dollars. New 1973 catalogue lists hundreds of coins we want to buy and gives the price range we will pay for these United States Coins. Certain half cent coins are worth up to \$3,500.00 for Canadian Coins. Our valuable Coin Book may reward you many thousands of dollars. Coins do not have to be old to be valuable. Thousands of dollars have been paid for coins dated as recently as 1940 to 1956. Now you too can learn the rare dates and how to identify rare coins in your possession with our new 1973 catalogue. A fortune may be waiting for you. Millions of Dollars have been paid for rare coins. **SEND YOUR ORDER FOR THIS VALUABLE COIN CATALOGUE NOW!** Hold on to your coins until you obtain our catalogue. Send \$1.00 plus 25¢ postage and handling

MAX MONEY-SAVING NO-RISK FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

BEST VALUES CO., COIN DEPT. C-981
160 Amherst St.
East Orange, N.J. 07019

Rush your Latest 1973 Coin Catalogue listing the actual price range you will pay for United States Coins listed in the catalogue. I enclose \$1. plus 25¢ postage and handling

Name

Address

City State

**YOUR MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL
IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THIS CATALOGUE**

BEST VALUES CO., COIN DEPT. C-981
160 AMHERST ST., East Orange, N.J. 07019

METAMORPHO

The ELEMENT MAN

IN THE GREAT, SPRAWLING MANSION OF SIMON STAGG, TYCOON-GENIUS, A SINGLE LIGHT BURNS IN AN UPPER WINDOW...

THEN, AS DAWN BEGINS TO FILTER ITS GRAY GLOW THROUGH THE SKY, THE LIGHT... **GOES OUT...**

IT'S...
ALL
OVER!

NO! DADDYKINS!
DADDYKINS!!

MR. STAGG'S
MIGHTY HEART
HAS BEATEN
ITS LAST!

OH, DADDYKINS,
DON'T LEAVE YOUR
LOVING DAUGHTER,
SAPPHIRE!

LOVING DAUGHTER?
YOU SURE HAD FUNNY
WAYS OF SHOWING
IT, SAPP!

EASY, BABY, EASY!
OLD REX IS HERE!

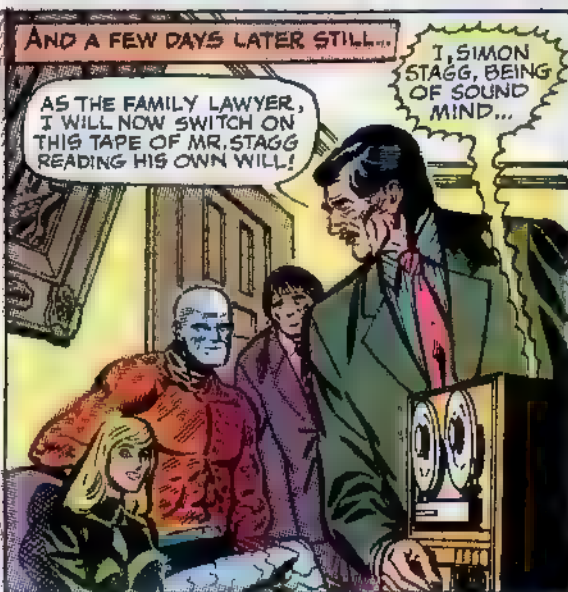
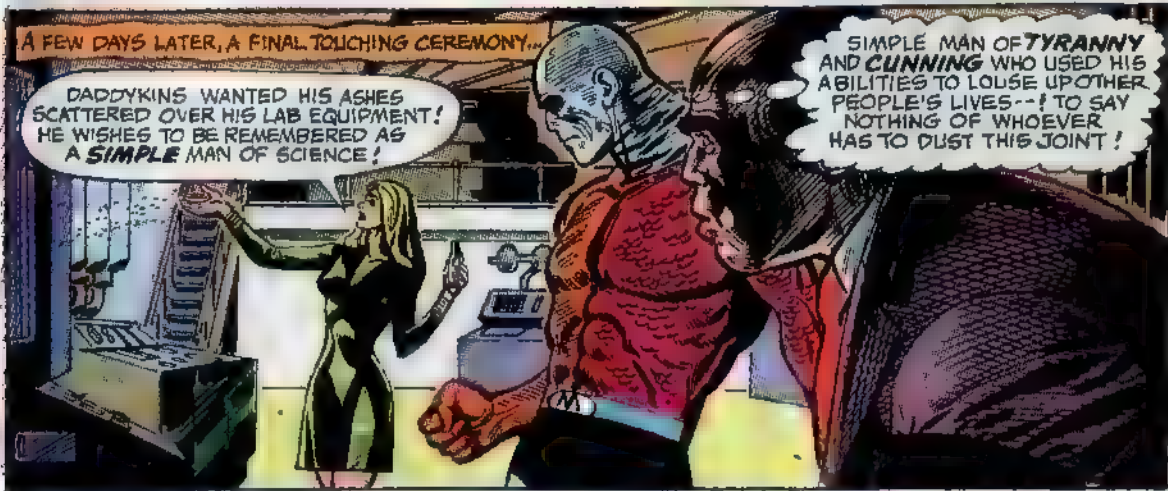
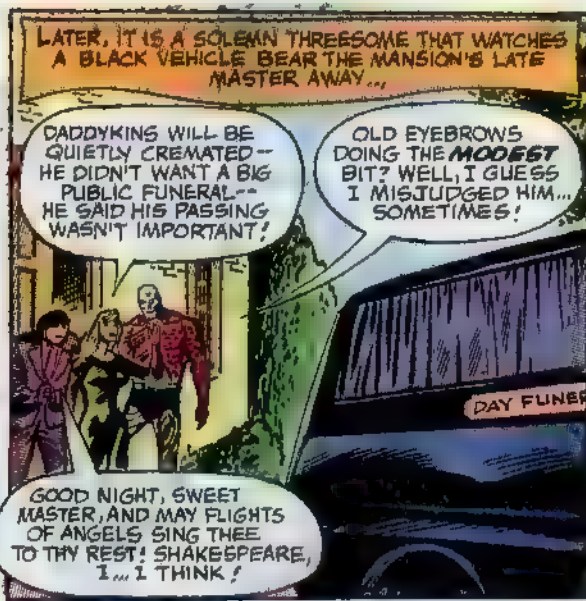
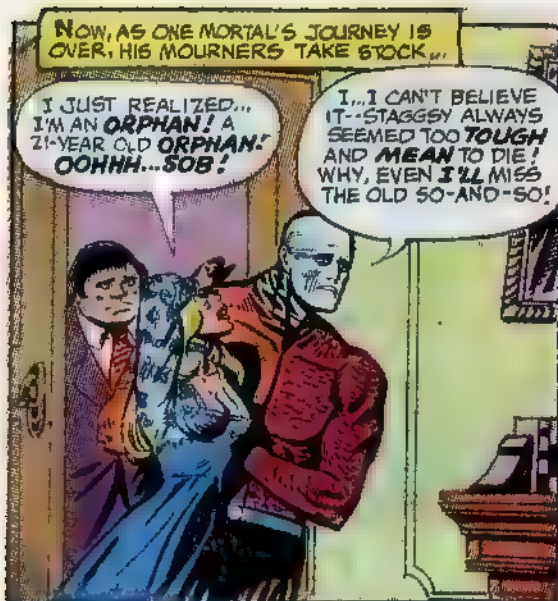
MASTER,
YOU'VE LEFT
POOR JAVA IN THIS
BIG, TERRIFYING
WORLD!

DR'S BOB HANEY (skory)
JOHN CALMAN (are)

Rx

The fountain
death!
of youth!

YES, DEATH, AS IT MUST TO ALL MEN, HAS COME FOR SIMON STAGG, AND WITH THE PASSING OF HIS WILY NEMESIS, REX WASON, ALIAS METAMORPHO, THE ELEMENT MAN, IS TOSSED LIKE A CHIP INTO A GAME WHERE ONLY FATE IS A WINNER—IN THE IMMORTAL ELEMENTAL ADVENTURE TAGGED...





BUT DUE TO HER SPENDTHRIFT WAYS AND LACK OF JUDGMENT, THE MONEY SHALL BE HELD IN TRUST, AND AN INCOME PAID HER OF 50,000 PER YEAR!

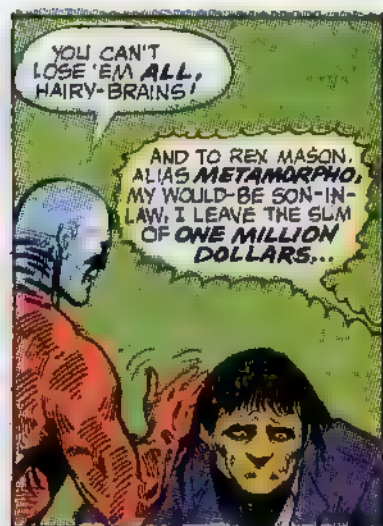
WHAT?! ONLY 50,000 A YEAR! WHY, I CAN'T EVEN CLOTHE MYSELF ON THAT!

TRY, BABY... TRY!



TO MY LOYAL SERVANT, JAVA, I LEAVE MY ENTIRE LIBRARY OF SCIENTIFIC BOOKS IN HOPES IT WILL IMPROVE HIS NEANDERTHAL MIND AND RESCUE HIM FROM BOOBYDOM!

BOOKS?! ALL THOSE DRY, DUSTY BOOKS?! I WANTED MONEY SO I COULD HAVE PLASTIC SURGERY... BECOME HANDSOME... SO MISS SAPHIRE WOULD LOVE ME--!

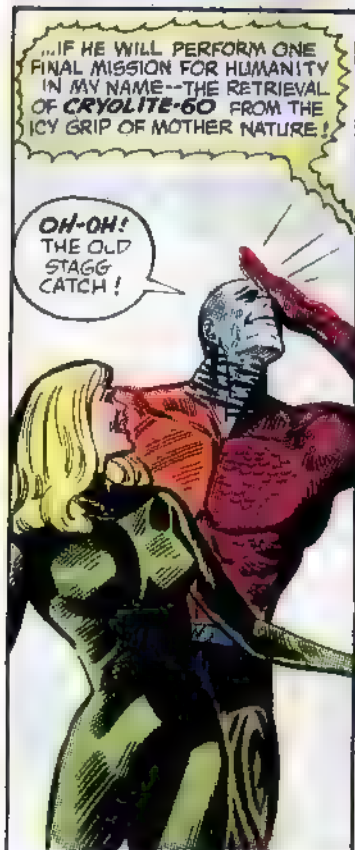


YOU CAN'T LOSE 'EM ALL, HAIRY-BRAINS!

AND TO REX MASON, ALIAS **METAMORPHO**, MY WOULD-BE SON-IN-LAW, I LEAVE THE SUM OF **ONE MILLION DOLLARS...**

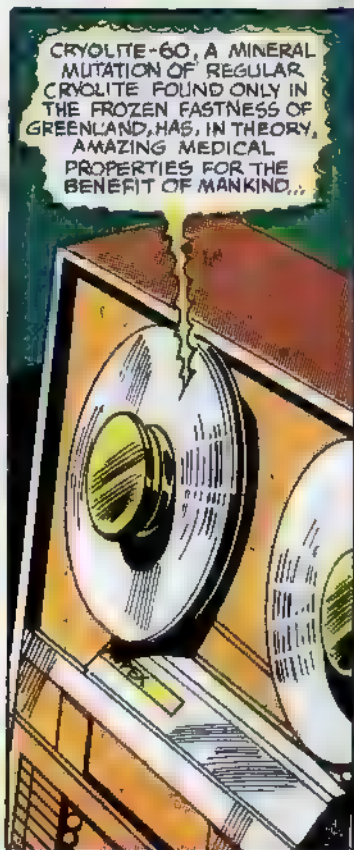


ONE MILLION SKINS! THAT'S A LOT OF LIGHT LUNCHESES!



...IF HE WILL PERFORM ONE FINAL MISSION FOR HUMANITY IN MY NAME--THE RETRIEVAL OF **CRYOLITE-60** FROM THE ICY GRIP OF MOTHER NATURE!

OH-OH! THE OLD STAGG CATCH!



CRYOLITE-60, A MINERAL MUTATION OF REGULAR CRYOLITE FOUND ONLY IN THE FROZEN FASTNESS OF GREENLAND, HAS, IN THEORY, AMAZING MEDICAL PROPERTIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF MANKIND..

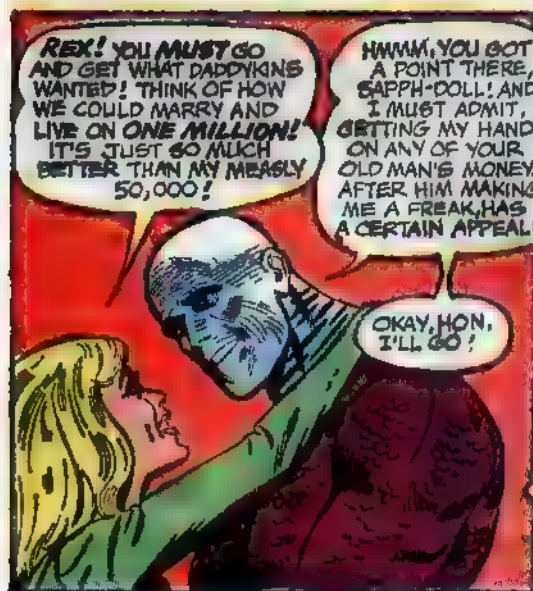


...BUT EVEN I WAS NEVER ABLE TO MAKE CRYOLITE-60 IN THE LABORATORY! IT ONLY EXISTS, LEGEND HAS IT, IN A PLACE CALLED **KRAKEN HOLE** GREENLAND...THE RESULT OF VOLCANIC ACTION WORKING ON NATURAL CRYOLITE UNDER UNIQUE CONDITIONS!



ONLY YOU, **METAMORPHO**, CAN FIND IT AND BRING IT BACK SO IT **MAY** BE PLACED IN THE **STAGG HALL OF SCIENCE** AS MY LAST GIFT TO HUMANITY FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT!

I KNEW OLD STAGGSY WOULDN'T JUST GIVE ME A COOL MILLION!



REX! YOU MUST GO AND GET WHAT DADDYKINS WANTED! THINK OF HOW WE COULD MARRY AND LIVE ON **ONE MILLION!** IT'S JUST SO MUCH BETTER THAN MY MEASLY 50,000!

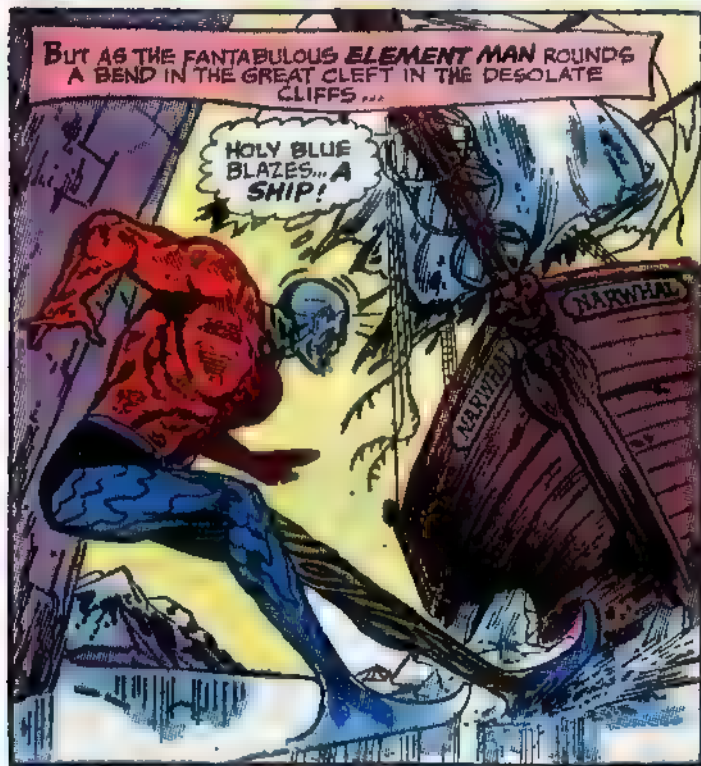
HHMM, YOU GOT A POINT THERE, SAPPY-DOLL! AND I MUST ADMIT, GETTING MY HANDS ON ANY OF YOUR OLD MAN'S MONEY AFTER HIM MAKING ME A FREAK, HAS A CERTAIN APPEAL!

OKAY, HON, I'LL GO!



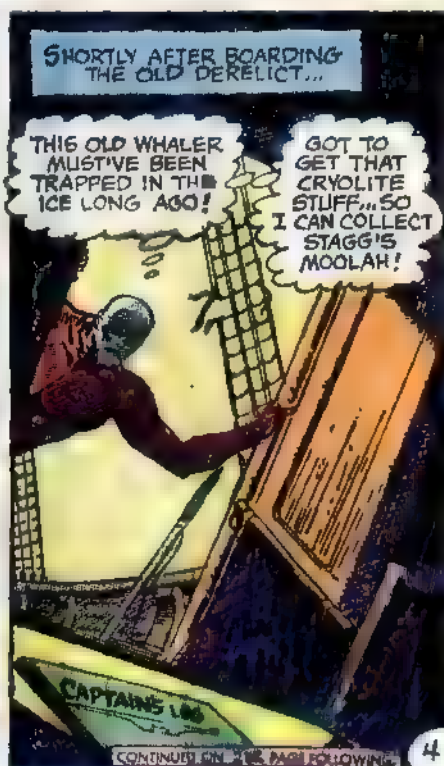
SO, NOT LONG AFTER, AN ICED-IN FJORD OF GREENLAND, THAT VAST, RUGGED ISLAND, HOME OF THE ESKIMO AND UNTAPPED RESOURCES...

JUST CALL ME HANS BRINKER! NOW, ACCORDING TO OLD CHARTS, THIS FROZEN H₂O HIGHWAY WILL TAKE ME TO KRAKEN HOLE-- A VOLCANIC BLOW-HOLE IN THE CLIFFS AHEAD!



BUT AS THE FANTABULOUS **ELEMENT MAN** ROUNDS A BEND IN THE GREAT CLEFT IN THE DESOLATE CLIFFS...

HOLY BLUE BLAZES... A SHIP!



SHORTLY AFTER BOARDING THE OLD DERELICT...

THIS OLD WHALER MUST'VE BEEN TRAPPED IN THE ICE LONG AGO!

GOT TO GET THAT CRYOLITE STUFF... SO I CAN COLLECT STAGG'S MOOLAH!

CONTINUED ON THE PAGE FOLLOWING

**NOW...
IN MODEL KITS**



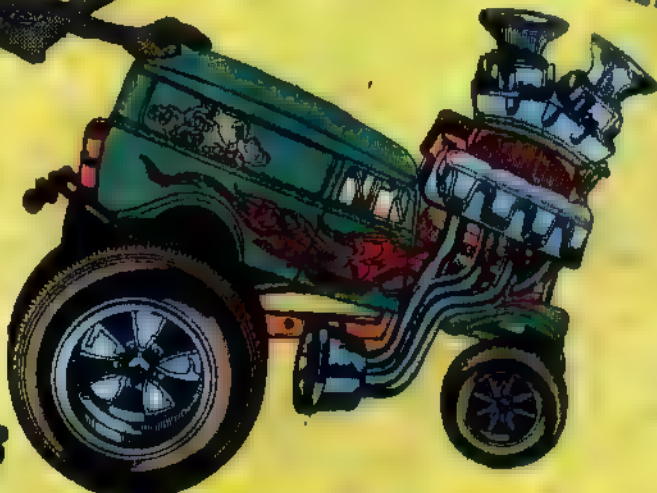
TM
**ROAD RUNNER
SNAP-TOGETHER
KIT SERIES**

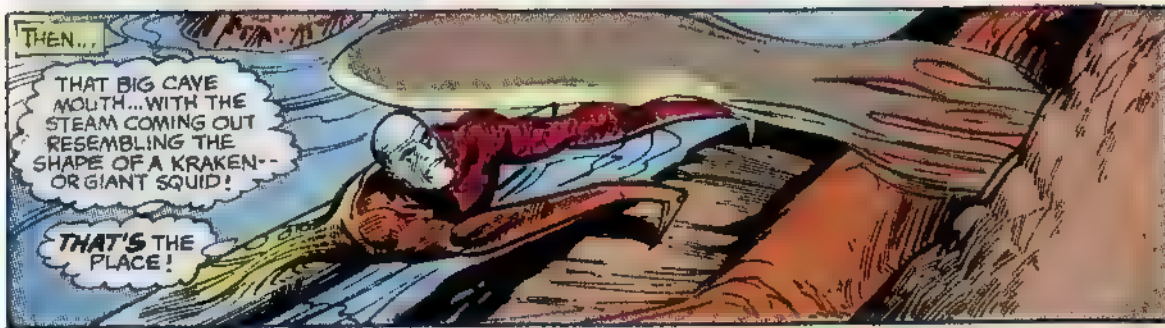
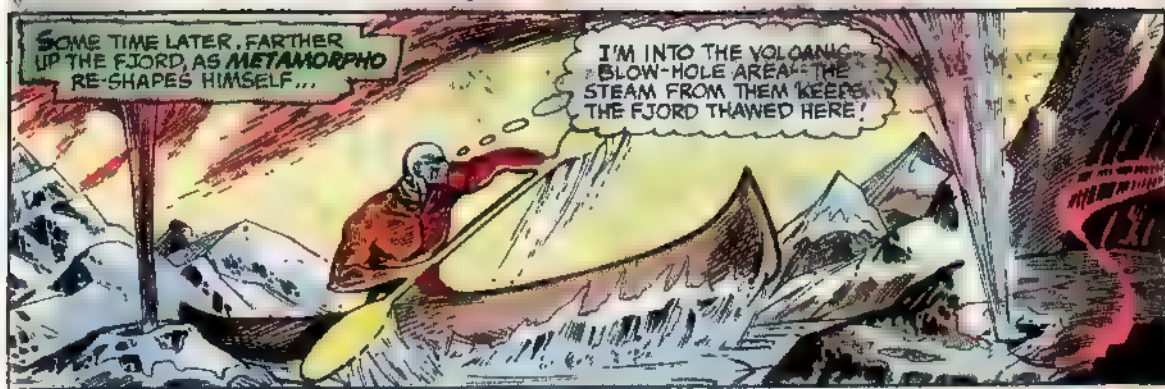
ROAD RUNNER
AND THE BEEP BEEP 'T

Beep! Beep! Here comes Road Runner!
And coming on with his Beep Beep
"T". The start of a great new kit
series from MPC... the Road
Runner (Snap-It) Series! Just dig
the big bird's bomb! A tiny "T"
... a super-charged, super-size
engine... and a super colossal
spoiler to keep it all on the level.
Beep! Beep! Now right behind is
... Wile E. Coyote in a Willys too
wee for the heavy Hemi! Two great
new kits... and a snap to build!
No glue needed to gum 'em up!
Get both now 'cause there's more
coming. Road Runner kits from
MPC! Beep! Beep!



WILE E. COYOTE
AND THE WILE E. WILLYS







YET, EVEN AS THE **CHEMICAL PHENOM** CHANGES INTO VAPOR TO ELUDE THE GRASPING TENTACLES.

BLAZES!
IT'S **INHALING** ME! GOT TO MAKE ONE ARM INTO A HANDY-DANDY IRON HARPOON!

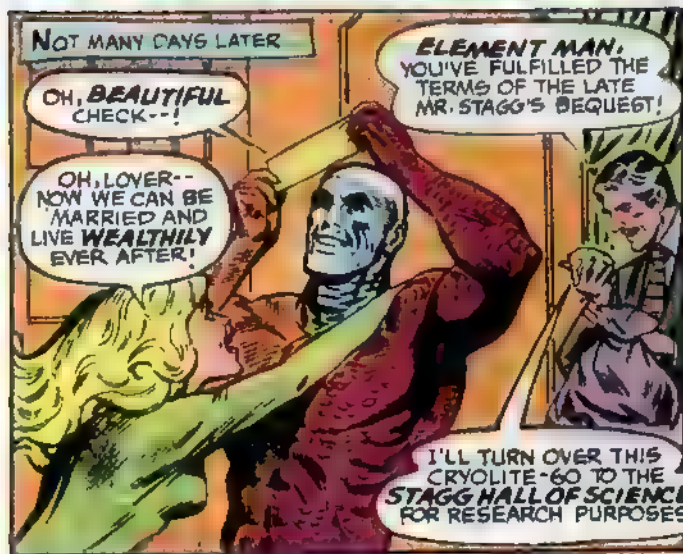


THE NEXT MOMENT!



THEN

COME TO REX, LOVELY LITTLE CRYSTALS-- 'CAUSE YOU'RE MY MILLION-SMACKER PAY-OFF!



NOT MANY DAYS LATER

OH, **BEAUTIFUL** CHECK--!

OH, LOVER-- NOW WE CAN BE MARRIED AND LIVE **WEALTHILY** EVER AFTER!

ELEMENT MAN, YOU'VE FULFILLED THE TERMS OF THE LATE MR. STAGG'S BEQUEST!

I'LL TURN OVER THIS CRYOLITE-60 TO THE **STAGG HALL OF SCIENCE** FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES!



MY ONLY SORROW IS THAT DADDYKINS WON'T BE AT OUR WEDDING!

YEAH, SURE, DOLL, THAT UH, MAKES ME **REAL** SAD, TOO!

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

HEY!

'I NEED 250 SKINNY GUYS!'

Mr. Universe
Frank
Richard
says...

muscles in only 35 days!

TENSILE CONTRACTION
Medically approved by doctors,
hospitals and clinics
throughout the U.S.

'I can't describe how much
this course has done for me.
All I can say is thank you.'
—Willy Frank, R.N. #3,
Vernon, B.C.

'I was very impressed on
my weight increased
rapidly and how my arms
thickened.'
—Colin O'Hara,
2203 Southwest Rd.,
La Porte, Indiana

'Your course is fantastic. My
arms are thickening and get-
ting harder after every ses-
sion.'
—Robert Tremblay,
Wawa, Ontario

'Your course has not only
made me look, but feel
100% better. Thanks.'
—Ted Catling, Box 223,
Shellbrook, Sask.

FRANK RICHARD

WANTED

You, I need 250 skinny guys RIGHT NOW to test my fantastic New Body Building Secret — TENSILE CONTRACTION by mail. All I need from you is a few short minutes a day of your time (in the privacy of your home) following my secret method — BUT, I ONLY WANT YOU IF YOU ARE UNDERWEIGHT, WEAK OR FLABBY. If you have a trim, masculine, well built, sexy body at this moment, then please, DO NOT SEND FOR TENSILE CONTRACTION.

I want these men secrets to go ONLY to those guys WHO NEED SENSATIONAL PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT... Instantly! In short, the more out of shape you are, the more you'll like it. Whether you are tall or short, young or old, or young, here's your chance to take me up on this unique offer today — and by testing this super muscle building method...

NO APPARATUS TO BUY. There is absolutely no apparatus or exercise contraptions to buy. I supply all that is necessary. The complete course involves only a few minutes a day for just 35 days. You will notice DEFINITE RESULTS in only 14 days! How do you have to complete the whole course. If after only a few days you feel you have "muscle" enough then simply quit the course. You are under NO obligation whatsoever! HERE'S WHAT TENSILE CONTRACTION DOES FOR ME... I added 2 full inches of solid muscle to my arms, 4 inches to my chest, broadened my shoulders fantastically and transformed my whole physical appearance in just five short weeks... and I want to prove it can be done by anyone who wants impressive rippling muscles that burst with vitality, fitness and lifeline through TENSILE CONTRACTION reveals the amazing shortcut to a weightlifters physique without weights... without barbells... and without exhausting exercises. Results are guaranteed any time faster. So far, I have tested TENSILE CONTRACTION on 200 high school students and 150 laborers. THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN

LITTLE SHORT OF MIRACULOUS. Thin, skinny people have gained 15-20, even 30 lbs. of sexy, rippling muscle, while those flabby and overweight have quickly lost every last ounce of fat from their waists, hips and entire bodies. Instantly!

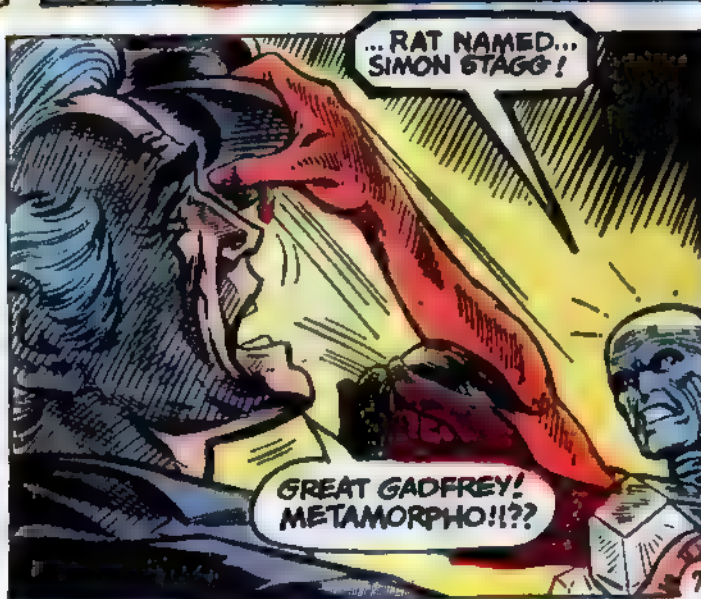
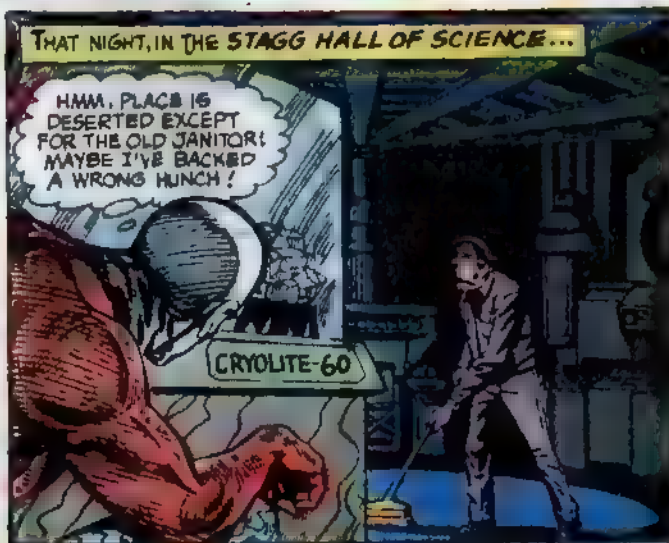
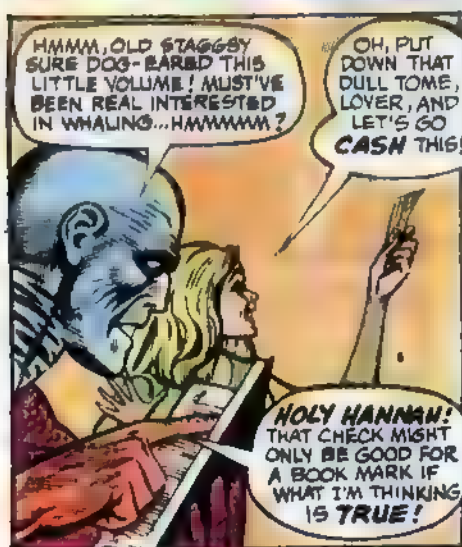
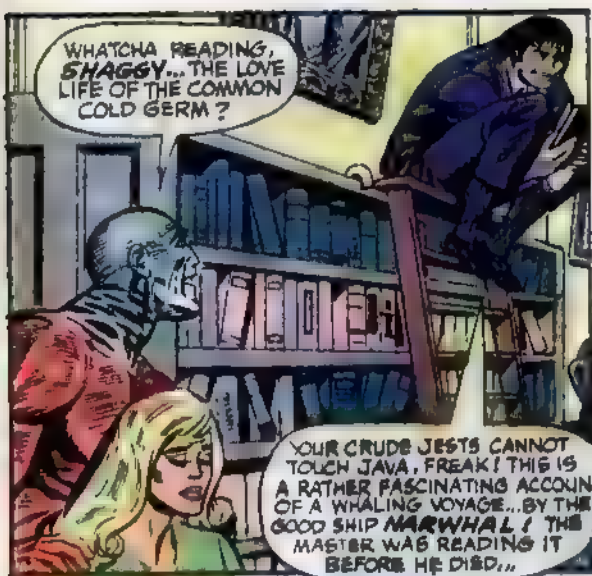
Yes, I'm asking you to witness a muscle building miracle ON YOUR OWN BODY. Turn on with fabulous TENSILE CONTRACTION and slap solid muscle on your arms, chest, shoulders and legs. FAST! Change your weakness into devastating, fearless strength and turn unwanted flesh into trim "Mr. Universe" muscle. You have nothing to lose but your skinny body... Send TODAY for this unique offer JUST 29¢ COIN.

BODY BUILDING CENTER, Dept. 14823
P.O. Box 550, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Dear Frank,
I enclose 29¢ coin. Count me in on your "Mr. Universe in 35 days" Musclebuilding Secret. I understand that I am under no obligation and that I may quit TENSILE CONTRACTION at any time without having to return the course.



NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____
(Please print clearly)





YOU CREEP...
YOU FAKED IT...
THE DYING...
EVERYTHING!

UH... YES, REX...
I HAD TO! I KNEW
YOU'D NEVER GO
GET THE CRYOLITE
FOR ME IF I WERE
ALIVE-- AND IF
YOU KNEW MY
TRUE PURPOSE!



I HAD TO FAKE MY OWN DEATH--
THE DOCTOR, UNDERTAKER, ALL
WERE BRIBED! THE WILL... ALL
OF IT SET UP TO FOOL YOU!

YEAH, CRUMB, AND
YOU DID FOOL ME--
UNTIL TONIGHT!

PLEASE, REX... TRY
TO UNDERSTAND! I
HAD TO HAVE IT!
CRYOLITE-60... IT'S
THE SECRET OF
ETERNAL YOUTH!



I READ ABOUT THE
NARWHAL'S VOYAGE--
HOW HER CAPTAIN HAD
FOUND SOME AT THAT
FJORD AND HAD
BECOME A YOUNG MAN
AGAIN BY DRINKING
THE DISSOLVED
CRYSTALS!

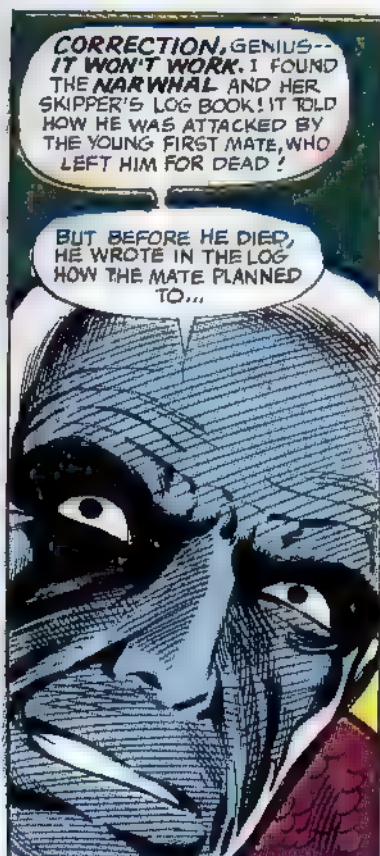
I WANTED YOUTH,
STRENGTH...
ROMANCE!

I'D DO ANYTHING...
DARE ANYTHING
FOR IT!



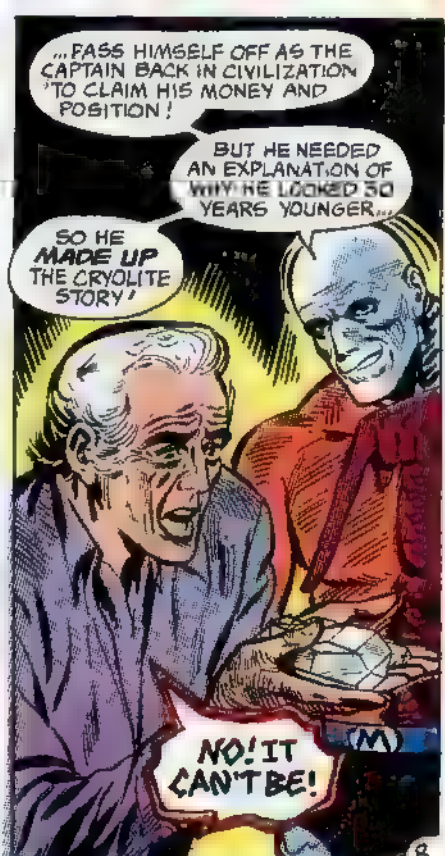
INCLUDING BREAKING
SAPPHO'S HEART AND
TRICKING ME ONE
MORE TIME!

REX, FORGIVE AN
OLD MAN? BUT WHAT
DO I--OR YOU--
CARE NOW? I HAVE
THE CRYOLITE AND
YOU HAVE YOUR
MILLION!



CORRECTION, GENIUS--
IT WON'T WORK. I FOUND
THE NARWHAL AND HER
SKIPPER'S LOG BOOK! IT TOLD
HOW HE WAS ATTACKED BY
THE YOUNG FIRST MATE, WHO
LEFT HIM FOR DEAD!

BUT BEFORE HE DIED,
HE WROTE IN THE LOG
HOW THE MATE PLANNED
TO...

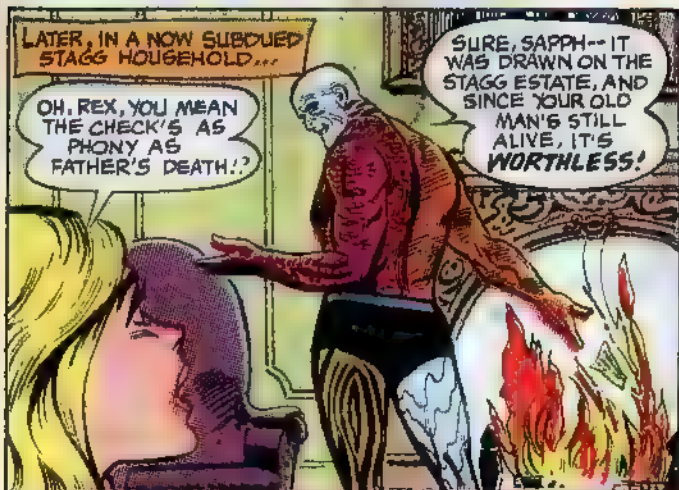
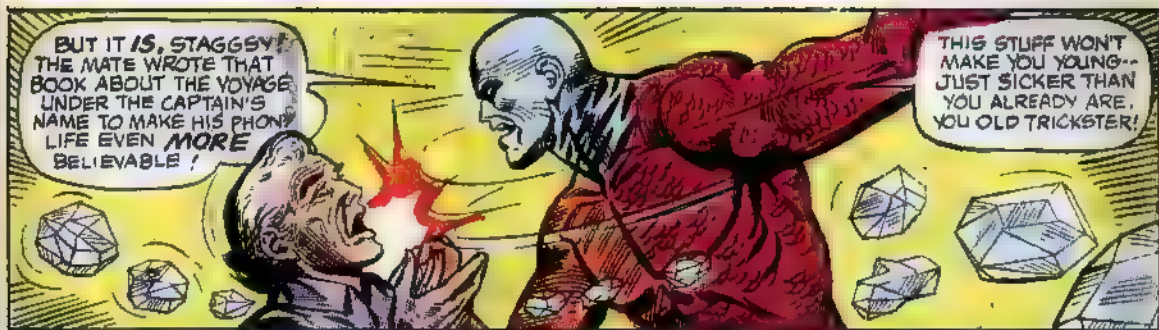


...FASS HIMSELF OFF AS THE
CAPTAIN BACK IN CIVILIZATION
TO CLAIM HIS MONEY AND
POSITION!

BUT HE NEEDED
AN EXPLANATION OF
WHY HE LOOKED 30
YEARS YOUNGER...

SO HE
MADE UP
THE CRYOLITE
STORY!

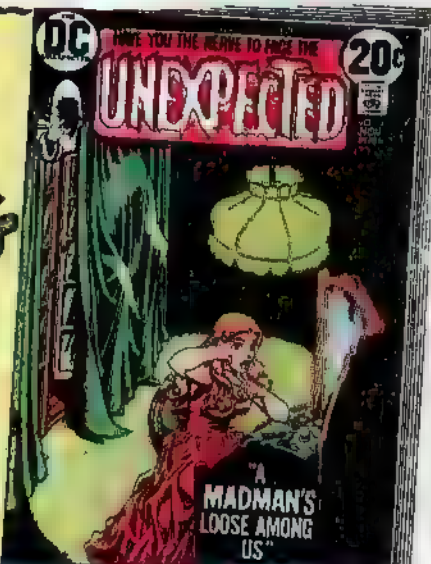
NO! IT
CAN'T BE!



YES, METAMANIACS, THE ELEMENT MAN HAS THE LAST LAUGH--AND YOU'LL HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE FOLLOWING HIS FAB, FREAKISH ADVENTURES IN A FUTURE ISSUE OF JIMMY OLSEN, SUPERMAN'S PAL!

The End

FOR THE **SHOCK**
OF YOUR LIFE,
READ THE **HAUNTING**
MAG THAT GIVES NEW
MEANING TO
MYSTERY!



NOW! Train At Home to be a VETERINARY ASSISTANT

Which of These
ANIMAL CARE Jobs
Would YOU ENJOY
THE MOST?

ZOOKEEPER There is a growing demand for trained men and women to care for animals found in public and private zoos. If you are fascinated by wild animals, and enjoy the added spice of some danger, this can be an exciting career opportunity.

VETERINARY ASSISTANT
Work with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine or in an animal hospital. You may help care for and treat large or small animals. You may further qualify for a specialized job, such as clinical technician or assisting in surgery, anesthesia or X-ray.

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN Unlimited opportunities await the trained Veterinary Assistant in pharmaceutical laboratories, medical schools and government research facilities. Here, you may specialize in care, breeding, study or training of research animals.

are overwhelmed by the growing flood of animals needing health care. This is your opportunity to combine your love for animals with a rewarding career—and work side-by-side aiding a man dedicated to helping those who can't help themselves.

PET SHOP OR KENNEL OWNER The rapid expansion of this field of business offers unusual opportunities for trained men and women to own or manage a pet shop or kennel. Your training qualifies you to give scientific care to pets you board or sell; and offer your customers the knowledgeable advice they will look to you to provide.

It's the convenient way! Many of the nation's most successful men and women began their careers with home-study courses. Home-study doesn't disrupt your life. You keep your job, you study at home in your spare time at your own pace.

Your Career Begins Here. If your present job (or the one you expect to get) promises anything less than the kind of career you deserve...do something

about it! NOW! The North American School of Animal Sciences offers you practical solution to the problem of training for a new career without disturbing your present job or income.

MAKE YOUR MOVE NOW! We'll send you a Free "Career Kit"—as well as special forms that may help you get government assistance in financing your new career training.

Accredited Member, National Home Study Council **Mail This Coupon Now!**

North American School of Animal Sciences, Dept. 22294
4500 Camino Dr., Newport Beach, Ca. 92663

☐ Veterinary Assistant ☐ Lab Technician ☐ Receptionist
☐ Pet Shop or Kennel

1998

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

[illegible]

PLEASE RETURN TO:

AMERICAN CIRCLE CORP., Dept. 25-Y
2815 Fifth Ave., Baltimore, Md. 11718

If not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days Free Trial for full refund of purchase price.

[illegible]

How often have I wondered

Mrs. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Address all mail to

WHERE THE ACTION IS

National Periodical Publications, Inc.
909 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022



B-1532

Also, the sentence, "But he seldom does a wrong story" should have read, "But he seldom does wrong in a story." Oh, well, I don't know what I'm complaining about. At least you printed the letter!

Cary Bates name dropping? I thought that was only Steve Skates' bag! I mean, the name "Gregory Reed" is awfully similar to "George Reeves," the star of the old Superman TV series. Actually, the basic situation of the story has been used often, but the variations which Cary put into it make it one of the most interesting adventures he's embroiled the Man of Steel in.

The Swan-Anderson art, unsurprisingly, was the usual top-notch stuff.

The conclusion of the Metamorpho story was a winner. This strip, given the treatment the first two parts were, will undoubtedly flourish.

Mark Lucke, Beeville, Tex.

Right—but not in ACTION, which introduces a new feature in the next issue. Watch for Metamorpho's guest-shot in a near-future issue of JIM-MY OLSEN. By then, we hope to have more plans made for the Element Man. Oh, yes—sorry we missed the typos in your other letter.—Ed.



Dear Editor:

ACTION #414 was an all-around great issue. First, the cover:

The idea was one that someone was bound to think of, but never did before. You handled it well because of two famous scenes: Superman dumping out a car (as on ACTION #1) and the ever-popular Clark Kent changing to guess who?!

"Superman vs. Superstar" was super-entertainment throughout. At first I thought the ending was corny, but then I realized that it was an excellent method of conveying the message of Superman being an alien, superior to humans, and especially "protector of the weak."

"Fade-Out for a Freak" was the highlight of the issue. At the top of page 6, I immediately suspected "caustic" as a clue Stagg was giving to Metamorpho, but I was too involved to look it up in a dictionary (as a matter of fact, I was outside reading it, so no dictionary was available, anyway), but as soon as Stagg mentioned "base," I was positive—and was right!

I guess everyone is guilty of at least six of the seven sins. Take me, for instance. I'm PROUD to get a letter printed every once in a while; I'm ANGRY at you for not giving the Legion of Super-Heroes its own monthly magazine; I SLOTHFULLY trod down to buy DC comics; I'm GREEDY to get lots of back issues; I'm ENVIOUS of Superman's super-powers (who wouldn't be?); and—well, I guess I'd better skip the last one!!!

Jim Balko, Holden, Mass.

Could it be that you're a GLUTTON for more super-tales of our LUSTY hero?—Ed.



Dear Editor:

Foment, sir, foment! "to stir up or instigate, as rebellion or discord." Not "ferment"! While I admit that my letter printed in ACTION #414 wasn't tops, some of the "editing" embarrassed me. I realize that some of it was necessary to eliminate the clumsiness of my missive, but that particular word should have been foment, as I had originally intended.

Dear Editor:

Now, just wait one cotton-pickin' minute. A few issues back, I wrote in stating that I'd never seen a bad Cary Bates story. What are you trying to prove—that he can write a bad one? I think so after reading "Superman vs. Superstar" in ACTION #414.

The concept of the story was good, but unoriginal. It might have been made into a fine tale, but unfortunately, Mr. Bates didn't handle it well. The finale was very poor. I just couldn't believe that Reed would give up as easily and quickly as he did.

The Pentacle of Power is what changed Reed to Superman and Superman to Reed after the first handshake. After the second handshake, this was reversed. We presume that Reed still has the Pentacle symbol on the palm of his hand in the last panel; therefore, if "their hands clasp once more," why wasn't the spell reversed once more?

John Mazurek, San Francisco, Calif.

Cary took it all into account—which is why, in that last panel, Superman and Reed shook with their left hands. Or didn't you notice that little touch?—Ed.



Dear Editor:

"Superman vs. Superstar" was the best Cary Bates Superman tale yet.

The plot was so well put together that I rechecked the credits to make sure it was a Bates script. (I'm not Cary's greatest fan.) But credit should be given when due.

Superman's reverie on page 6 was a fantastic bit of dialogue. I liked that line, "... the constant life-and-death decisions." It shows all these super-solutions don't come easy for Superman.

Joe Feluso, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Well, at least you and John Mazurek agree on one thing—that was an unusual Bates story.—Ed.

WHAT DOES THIS CHAMPION HAVE IN COMMON...WITH YOU?



DAVE DRAPER: "Mr. America - Mr. Universe" A Weider Pupil!

See Dave's magnificent physique that won him a co-starring role in the movie "Don't Make Waves."

We can't promise you a movie career but we can guarantee a strong handsome and improved body.

**HE ANSWERED A WEIDER AD—GAINED 3 INCHES ON HIS ARMS
—4 INCHES ON HIS CHEST—IN 7 SHORT WEEKS! YOU TOO!**

You, too—just like Dave Draper—can now own a handsome, muscular body—fast! You, too, can now finally follow the exact same instructions this champ did, and in just 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own home, you can begin to slap on 4 inches to your chest and 3 inches to each arm, give yourself lifeguard shoulders, muscularize your waist, get speedy legs, and exercise your entire body. The techniques are simple, there's nothing complicated, just downright enjoyable.

I don't care if, today you own the skinniest, flabbiest or most laughed at body—whether you're tall or short, young or not-so-young. If you send for my FREE 32-page booklet of muscle building information, I guarantee that you will experience a muscle building miracle; before your eyes, you will see handsome muscles start bursting out all over you. They will ripple with power, burst with energy—and for the first time in your life men will envy your body, women admire it, because at last you own a body that brings you fame instead of shame. Let me help you as I did other champions—who were also weaklings—to put

an end to your weakness and shame. Write now for free information—you'll be so happy you did! After all, you have nothing to lose but your weakness!

A-C-T-I-O-N is the key to strength—make your first He-Man-Decision N-O-W! Fill out the coupon right now, rush it to me, and in hours I will send you absolutely free—at my own expense—the exact same muscle building information I sent to Dave Draper and numerous champions, and to over 5 million other successful students. I am known as the most successful trainer of champions. I have been turning weaklings into "Mr. Americas" and "Mr. Universes" successfully since 1936. Don't pass up this once-in-a-lifetime proven successful offer to trade in your body for the one you always dreamed of having. Remember, you will be following in the proven, safe, scientific footsteps of the World's Best Men. So hurry! Put an end to your weakness now. Send for my sensational free offer—good only to males between 13 and 75 in normal good health. This is the most time-tested, results-producing course of all time.

ABSOLUTELY FREE! MUSCLE-BUILDING INFORMATION ON HOW TO BUILD A HANDSOME BODY!



JOE WEIDER
Personal trainer of
"Mr. America" "Mr.
Universe" "Mr.
Canada" perfect men
title winners since
1936—and over
5,000,000 successful
pupils the world
over!

JOE WEIDER, Dept. 80-102V
Trainer of Champions since 1936
25 Maple Street Norwood, N.J. 07646

Dear Joe: Shoot the works! I agree, that just like the champions before me, I want to be a New Man! Rush me your free muscle-building information that I can use right now at home to build a handsome body. I have checked the gains I want to make. I'm enclosing 25¢ to cover handling and mailing charges. I am under no further obligation in any way.

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____

(please print clearly)

MAIL COUPON TODAY FOR FREE 32 PAGE COURSE!

NO OBLIGATION!—NOTHING TO BUY!



Here's the kind of body I want (check as many as you wish).

- ☐ Bigger arms
- ☐ Larger Chest
- ☐ Broader Shoulders
- ☐ Athletic Legs
- ☐ More Weight
- ☐ Lose Weight
- ☐ Magnetic Personality

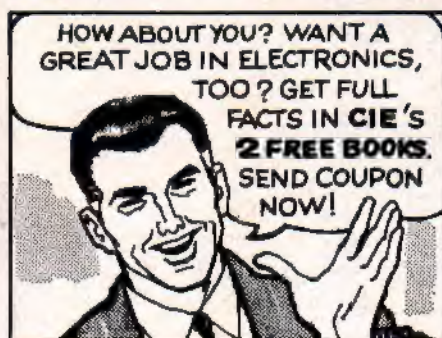
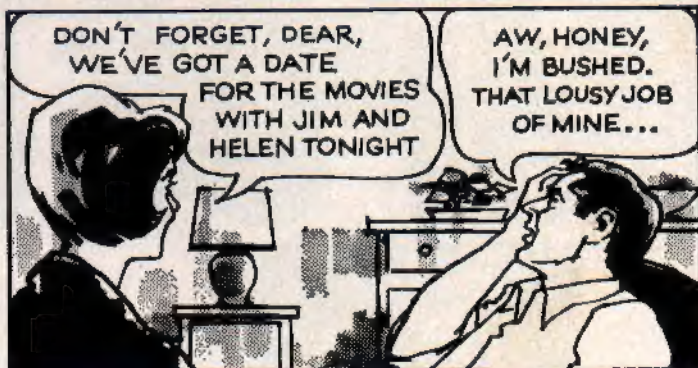
ABSOLUTELY FREE!



THIS CAN BE YOUR "BIG BREAK"

if you're a man who's ever said...

**"I'm sick
and tired
of my Job!"**



If coupon is missing, write to Cleveland Institute of Electronics, 1776 E. 17th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

CIE Cleveland Institute of Electronics
1776 E. 17th St., Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Please send me 2 FREE books describing opportunities in Electronics and how to prepare for them.

Name _____ Age _____
(please print)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

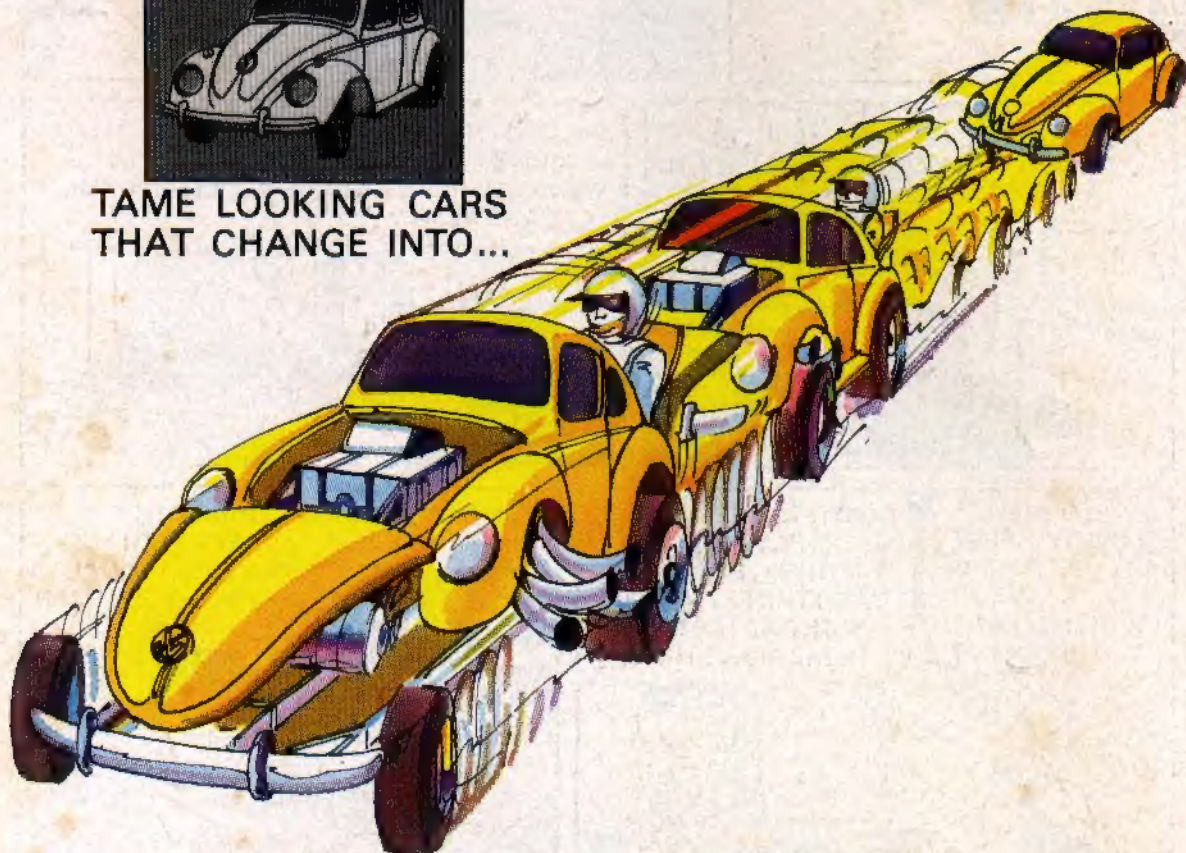
☐ Veterans & Servicemen: check here for G.I. Bill information
Accredited Member National Home Study Council

NC-03

THE IMPOSTERS™



TAME LOOKING CARS
THAT CHANGE INTO...



MEAN RACING MACHINES

The Imposters. You have to see them do their stuff. Take hold of the stick shift and get ready for a shock. Suddenly a mild mannered street machine changes into nearly a foot of road gobbling racing machine. Front end out. Engine up. 400 cubes. Then up pops the driver, ready to cut down all comers. The Imposters. They're a lot more car than meets the eye.



AURORA®

(C) 1972 Aurora Products Corp.,
44 Cherry Valley Road, West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552